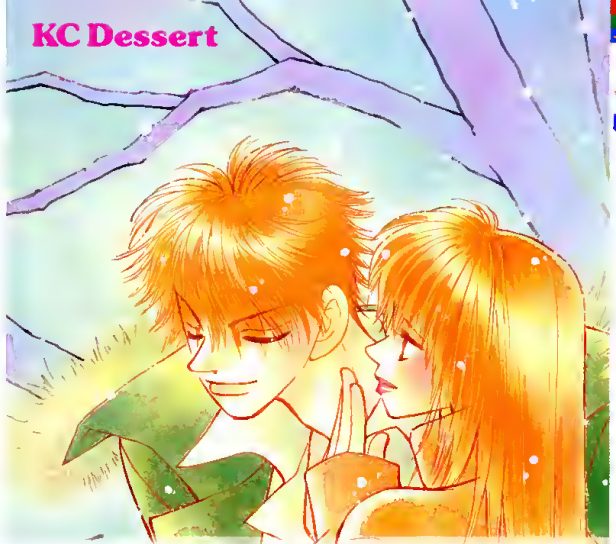
■A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

I LIKE BLACK TEA MORE THAN COFFEE. USUALLY I PUT LOTS OF MILK IN IT TO MAKE MILK TEA. MY FAVORITE BRAND IS FORTNUM & MASON. NEXT TIME, I THINK I'M GOING TO TRY BENOIST'S* DENSHA OTOKO.

*Note: Benoist is a tea store in Matsuzakaya in the Ginza district

cover design
飯山佳子(BAD BEANS)

KC Dessert



あなたを信じてる

I believe in you ～ lonely children～

―淋しい子供たち―

NORIKO MIURA

三浦実子

KC デザート

I BELIEVE IN YOU: LONELY CHILDREN

MIURA NORIKO

KCD 317

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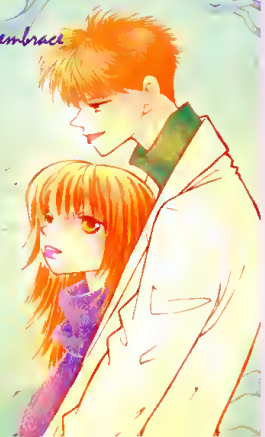
KCデザート Dessert

At school people fear him.
But he's the only person who can embrace

with an alcoholic father, a moody mother, and a carefree boyfriend, am I a person who they have no use for ?! Nothing is going well for sure until she encounters a fateful meeting! But that person is none other than the most dangerous guy at school. Am I falling in love? I know I shouldn't hook up with him, but I can't resist his mysterious attraction... Presented simultaneously with "Cute Girlfriend."



あなたを信じてる ◎三浦実子
―淋しい子供たち―
NORIKO MIURA

KCデザート Dessert

MIURA NORIKO'S WORKS

KIRAI VOLUME 1-10

BROTHER

I BELIEVE IN YOU LONELY CHILDREN

ラブストーリーコミック誌

月刊デザート Dessert
毎月24日発売!!

月刊The デザート Dessert
毎月10日発売!!

KCデザート KCD317

あなたを信じてる

I believe in you ～ lonely children ～

―淋しい子供たち―

NORIKO MIURA
三浦実子

Contents

I Believe in You:
Lonely children
3

Cute Girlfriend
151

Afterword
211

あなたを信じてる

～Lost Children～

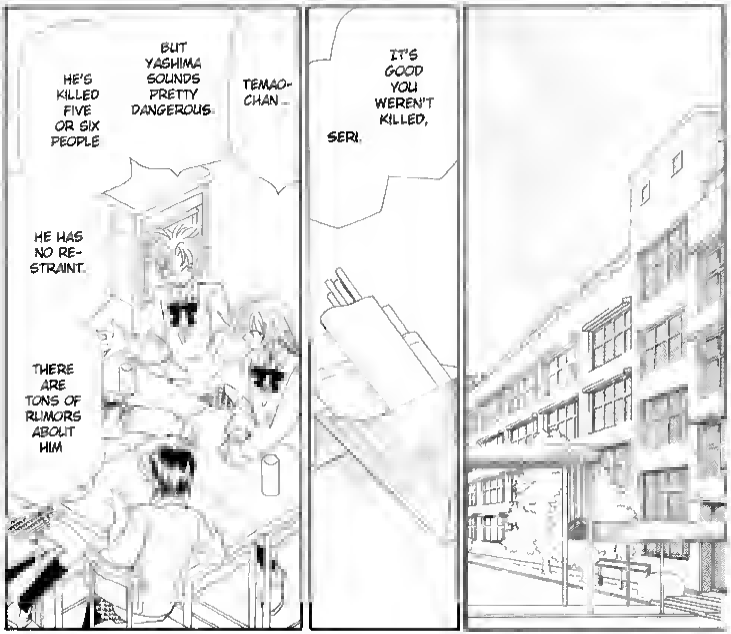
～失われた子供たち～

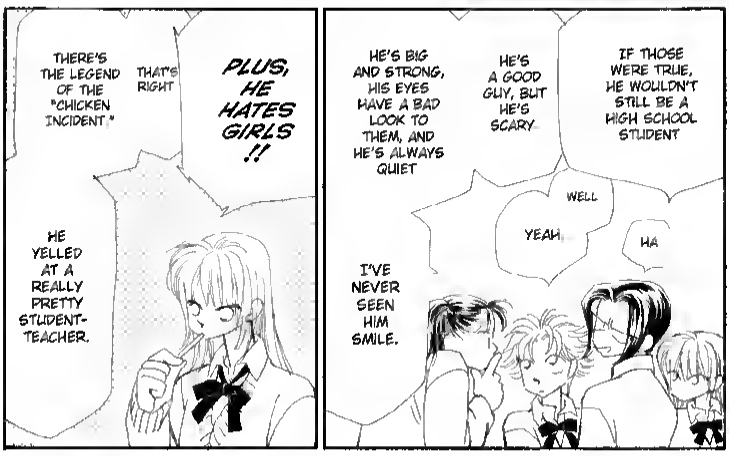
あなたを信じてる
I believe in you ～lonely children～
―淋しい子供たち―

pssssh
THE DOORS ARE CLOSING
BUMP
SORRY...
I'M...

Yashima Satoru!
FLINCH
He's going to hit me!!

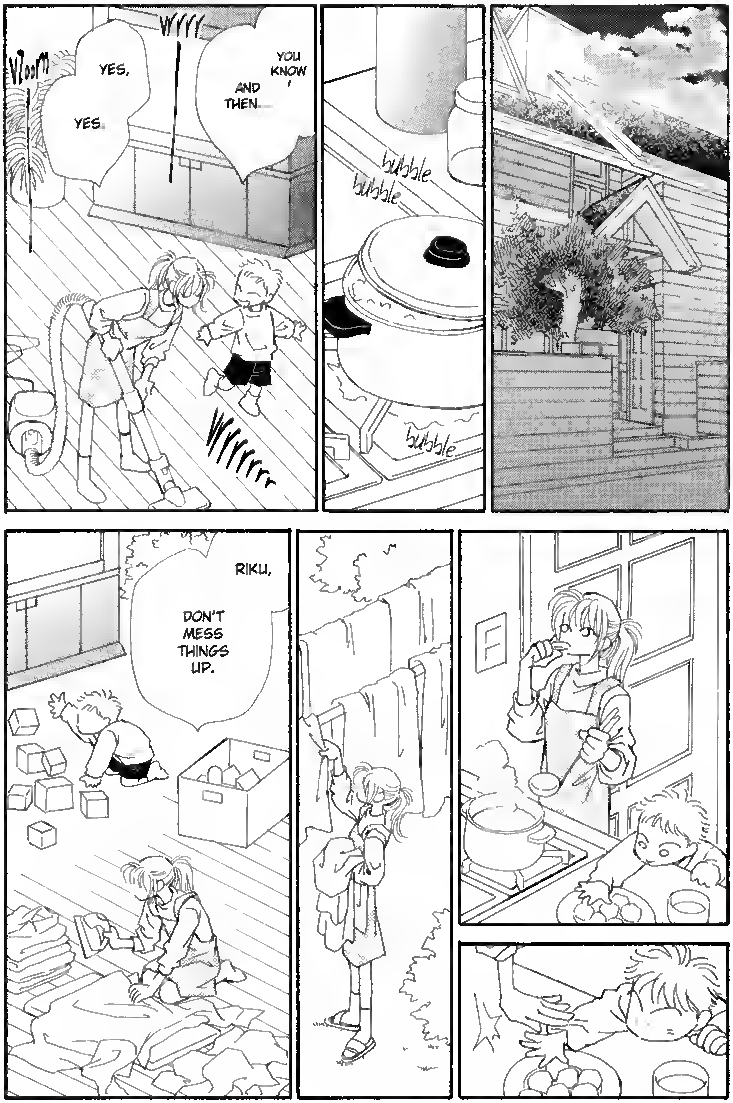
I'M SORRY
I'M
bow bow
Huh?


HE'S KILLED FIVE OR SIX PEOPLE
BUT YASHIMA SOUNDS PRETTY DANGEROUS.
TEMAO-CHAN...
HE HAS NO RE-STRAINT.
THERE ARE TONS OF RUMORS ABOUT HIM
IT'S GOOD YOU WEREN'T KILLED, SERI.


THERE'S THE LEGEND OF THE "CHICKEN INCIDENT."
THAT'S RIGHT
PLUS, HE HATES GIRLS !!
HE YELLED AT A REALLY PRETTY STUDENT-TEACHER.
HE'S BIG AND STRONG, HIS EYES HAVE A BAD LOOK TO THEM, AND HE'S ALWAYS QUIET
HE'S A GOOD GUY, BUT HE'S SCARY.
IF THOSE WERE TRUE, HE WOULDN'T STILL BE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
WELL
YEAH
HA
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SMILE.

"DON'T TOUCH ME!!"
"IT MAKES MY SKIN CRAWL."
THAT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT HE DID
YEAH HE'S PRETTY WELL-KNOWN AMONG OTHER GUYS
BUT THE GIRLS WERE CLAPPING
IT'S BECAUSE SHE WAS AN OVERLY SEXUAL WOMAN
You only applaud for a good guy
IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE STUDENT-TEACHER WAS FIRED IN THE THICK OF THINGS
outrageous
BUT, WHY WAS YASHIMA ON THAT TRAIN ANYWAY?
ISN'T HIS HOUSE THE OTHER DIRECTION?
REALLY?
I'M SURE

YOU...
ARE WAY TOO THREATEN-ING
IT MUST BE MIS-ERABLE.

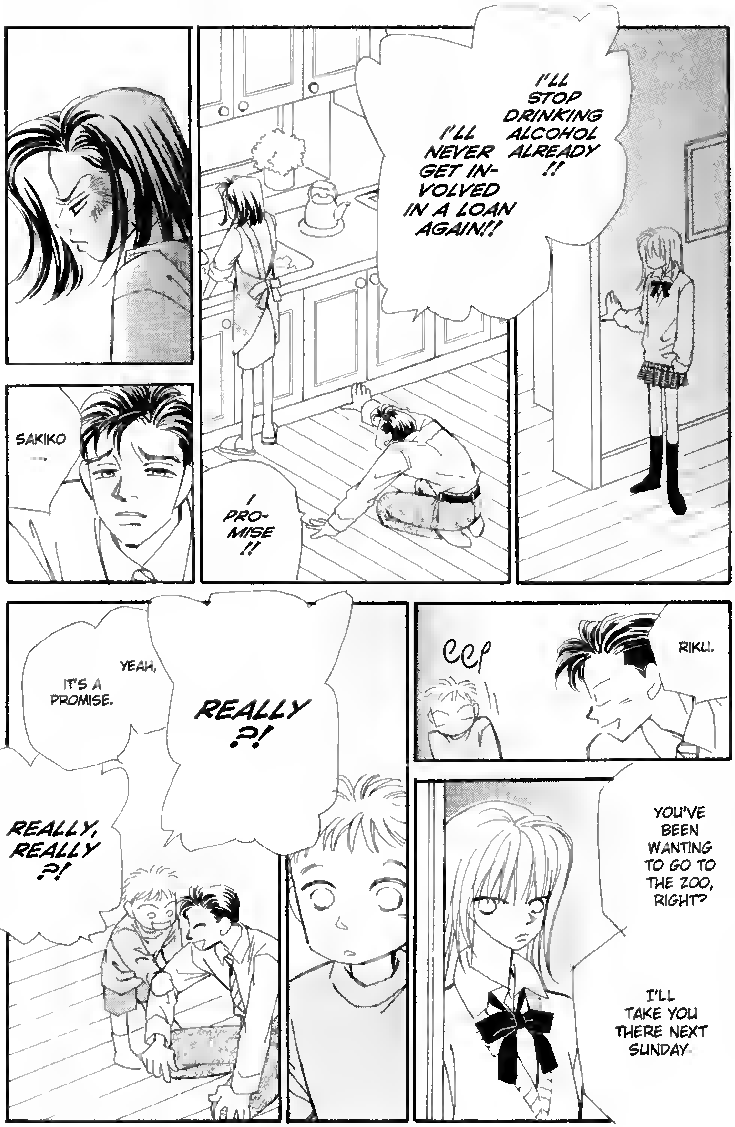

Vroom
YES.
YES.
AND THEN...
YOU KNOW
Wrrrr
bubble
bubble
bubble
Wrrrrrr
RIKU,
DON'T MESS THINGS UP.

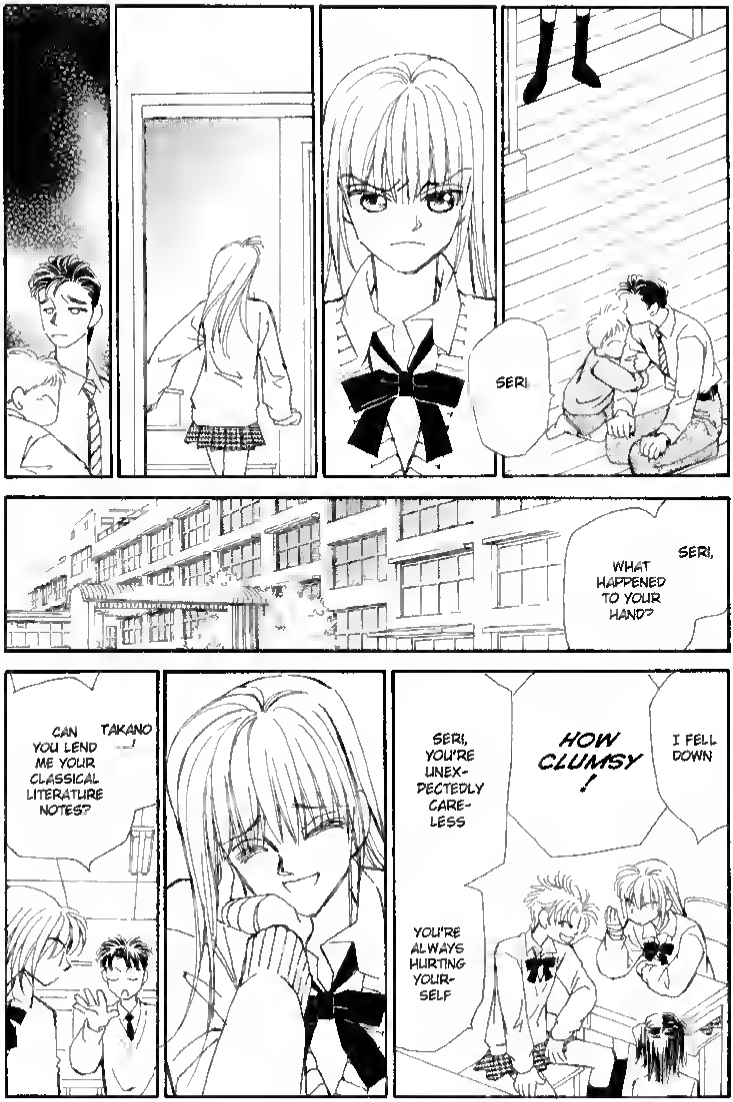
*About ¥4300 in today's currency

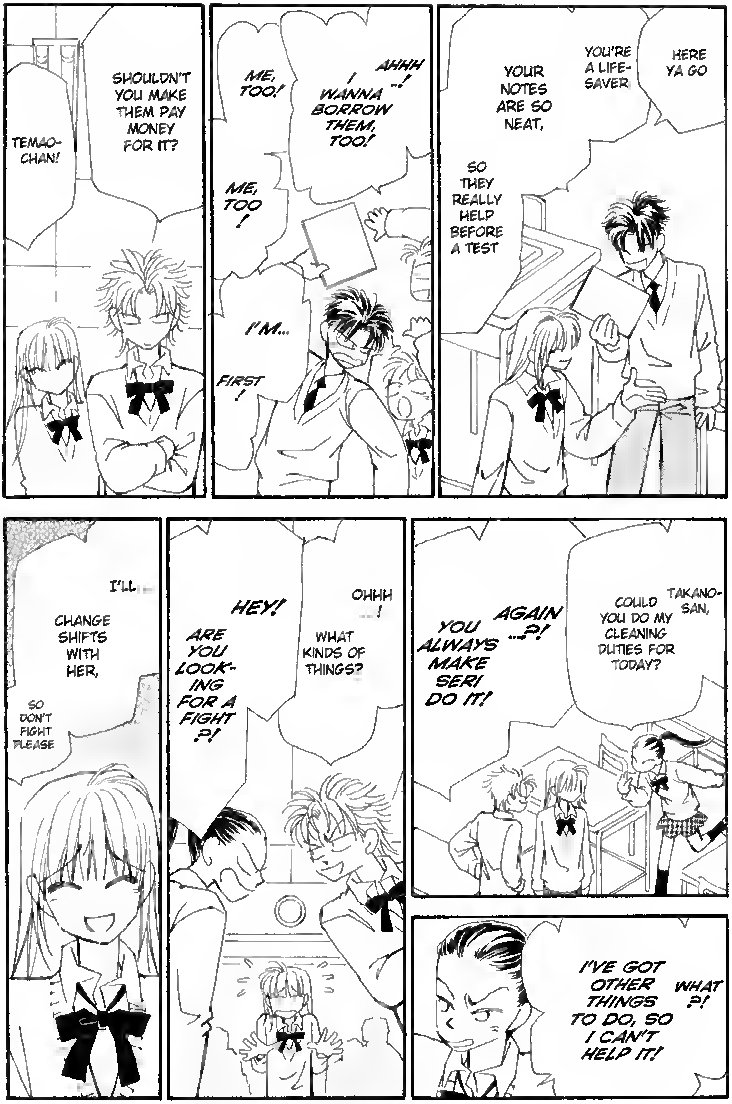
BAM
I...
I'M SORRY
SHOCK
HEY! I'M HOME!
BAM
GET YOUR ASS OUT HERE RIGHT NOW!
QUIET, YOU!
WHAT THE FUCK!
STOP COMPLAINING!

I USE THE MONEY I EARN TO DRINK ALCOHOL!
WE HAVE A LOAN TO PAY !!
IF WE CAN'T, WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT ?!
CRASH
SHUT UP!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU TALK LIKE THAT!
THAT I DRINK SAKE!!
TRY ACTING LIKE A WIFE SOMETIME!!
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK

SHUT UP!!
THWACK
STOP IT, DAD!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!


I'LL STOP DRINKING ALCOHOL ALREADY !!
I'LL NEVER GET INVOLVED IN A LOAN AGAIN!!
SAKIKO
I PROMISE !!
RIKU.
YOU'VE BEEN WANTING TO GO TO THE ZOO, RIGHT?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE NEXT SUNDAY
REALLY ?!
YEAH, IT'S A PROMISE.
REALLY, REALLY ?!


SERI
SERI,
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAND?
I FELL DOWN
HOW CLUMSY!
SERI, YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY CARELESS
YOU'RE ALWAYS HURTING YOURSELF
TAKANO...!
CAN YOU LEND ME YOUR CLASSICAL LITERATURE NOTES?


TEMAO-CHAN!
SHOULDN'T YOU MAKE THEM PAY MONEY FOR IT?
ME, TOO!
AHHH ..!
I WANNA BORROW THEM, TOO!
ME, TOO!
I'M... FIRST!
HERE YA GO
YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER
YOUR NOTES ARE SO NEAT,
SO THEY REALLY HELP BEFORE A TEST
TAKANO-SAN,
COULD YOU DO MY CLEANING DUTIES FOR TODAY?
AGAIN ...?!
YOU ALWAYS MAKE SERI DO IT!
WHAT ?!
I'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO, SO I CAN'T HELP IT!
OHHH ..!
WHAT KINDS OF THINGS?
HEY!
ARE YOU LOOK-ING FOR A FIGHT?!
I'LL ...
CHANGE SHIFTS WITH HER,
SO DON'T FIGHT PLEASE

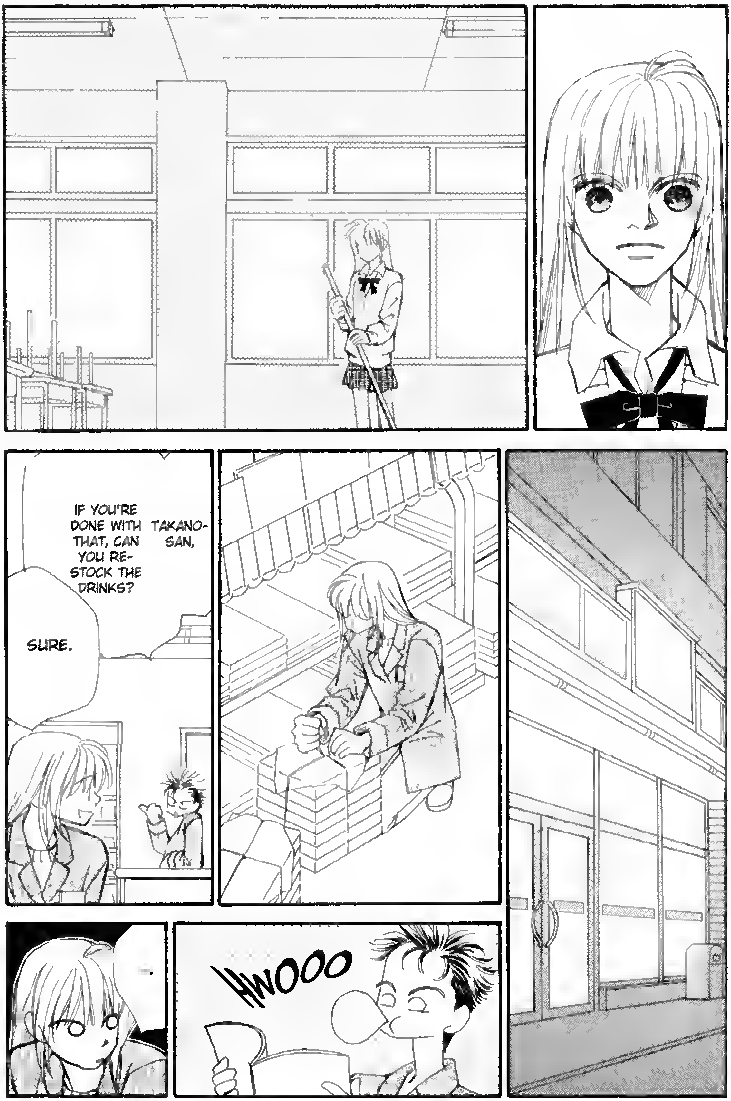
WHY...
DO YOU TAKE OVER HER DUTIES?
THANKS!
PISSED OFF
hmph
Victory
THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY SUCH TIME. YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD TO DO IT!!
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN SHE SWITCHED WITH ME
BUT,
THAT GIRL NEVER DOES THE SHIFT YOU EXCHANGE WITH HER, EITHER
WELL,
THAT'S SERI'S GOOD POINT.
YOU'RE WAY TOO NICE, SERI
TEMAO'S RIGHT

HEY.
WHAT D'YA THINK?
ABOUT WHAT?
IS THAT SO?
ARE REALLY MEAN
YOU..

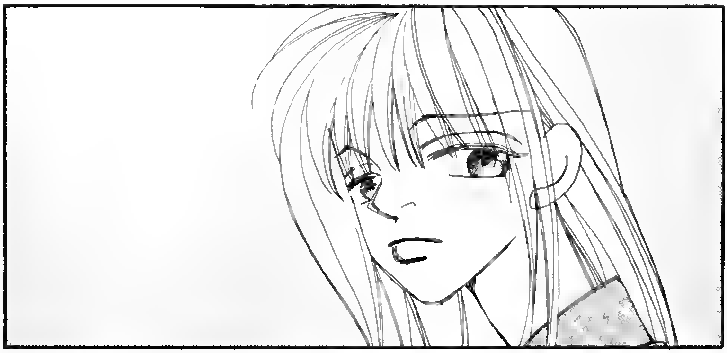
RATTLE
CRAP, WE'RE LATE!
NO WAY!

YOU COULD'VE SKIPPED OUT, TOO.
WHAT?
THEN,
EVERY-ONE HAD OTHER STUFF TO DO.
I WOULD NOT DO THAT.
YOU'RE AWFULLY DILIGENT, TAKANO-SAN
HUH?
TAKANO-SAN, YOU'RE ALL ALONE?
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
YASHIMA, MOVE!
Your huge body is blocking the door!
IF IT'S ANNOYING, THEN SAY IT'S AN-NOYING.
WELL,
YUKI, WE'RE LATE!
GOOD LUCK!
THANKS

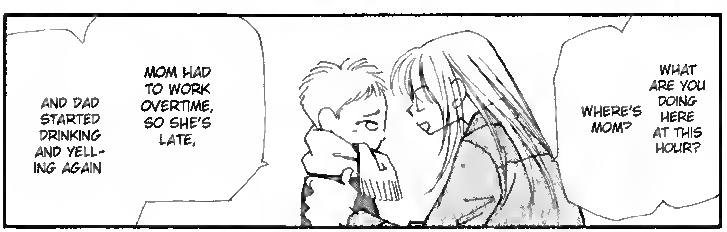
IT'S NOT REALLY
ANNOYING.
UM,
AH...
BUT,
LIAR.


IF YOU'RE DONE WITH THAT, CAN YOU RE-STOCK THE DRINKS?
TAKANO-SAN,
SURE.
HWOOO

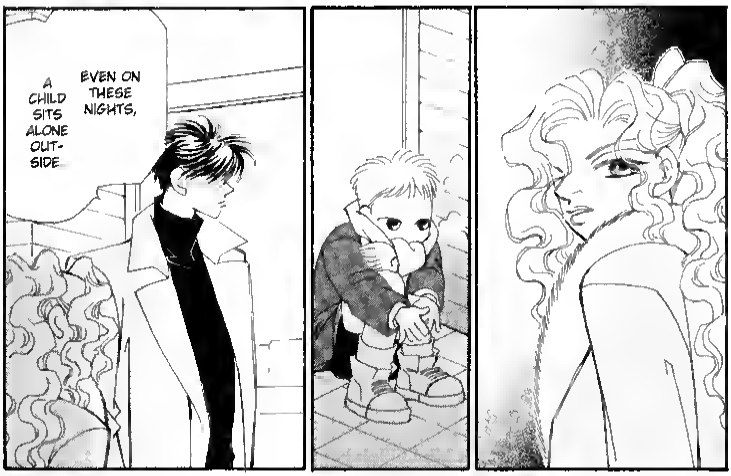
I'M WORKING THE CASH REGISTER!
VERY DIFFERENT FROM A CERTAIN SOMEONE
WHIP WHIP WHIP
TAKANO-SAN, YOU'RE A GOOD WORKER.
YOU'RE A GREAT HELP.
I WONDER WHY I EVER HIRED YOU FOR THIS JOB
OH, C'MON, MANAGER.
AND YET YOU LOVE ME ♡
YOU BETTER STOP THAT QUICK.
AGAIN WITH THE BASHFUL ATTITUDE!
SLAP



RIKU!
SISTER!
WELCOME


AND DAD STARTED DRINKING AND YELLING AGAIN
MOM HAD TO WORK OVERTIME, SO SHE'S LATE,
WHERE'S MOM?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?

IS SOMETHING WRONG, TAKANO-SAN?
NO, IT'S NOTHING.
YEAH
Drinking again?
JUST WAIT BY THE HOUSE, OK?
BUT—
YOU'RE GONNA BE IN THE WAY HERE, SO YOU CAN'T STAY
GO HOME AFTER AN HOUR.
THEN, MOM WILL BE HOME.


A CHILD SITS ALONE OUTSIDE
EVEN ON THESE NIGHTS,

"I'M SORRY."
"I'M SORRY."
"WHAT A TERRIBLE CHILD!"
"I'M SORRY."
squeeze

I LOVE YOU.
ME, TOO.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE DOESN'T HATE WOMEN.

YASHIMA WANTS TO BE MADE OF TOUGHER STUFF
I KNEW IT
REALLY ?
WHA ?!
SERIOUSLY?
HE WAS BEING LOVEY-DOVEY WITH AN OLDER WOMAN
YASHIMA-KUN
THAT WILL BRING HIS IMAGE DOWN !
HUH?
HUH?
TAKANO
I'M SORRY.
WHY, YOU ...
AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS NOW
THEY WERE EVEN GIVEN TO A GUY FROM ANOTHER CLASS,
THEY KINDA GOT PASSED AROUND TO EVERYBODY ELSE
I DON'T HAVE AN EXCUSE
YOU LOST HER NOTES ?!

I CAN COPY WHAT YOU COPIED FROM ME.
TAKANO, YOU'RE SO NICE!
OF COURSE!
THERE'S NO HELPING IT IF IT'S LOST.
TEMAO-CHAN
YOU HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO RETURN THEM, YOU KNOW!
IF YOU BORROWED NOTES FROM SERI,
TEMAO-CHAN
You are quite right
♪
BUT, SERI
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
AREN'T YOU GOING TO GET ANGRY?
THAT'S NO GOOD, I'M TELLING YA.

SO,
HERE YOU USE THE PREVIOUS FORMULA
LIBRARY
AH, SORRY
SHUUICHI-KUN?
YOU CAN GO TO YOUR CLUB IF YOU WANT
I'LL FINISH UP HERE
REALLY ?!
NO,
I CAN'T JUST GO LIKE THAT
IT'S MY ASSIGN-MENT
fidgit
fidgit

I'LL EVEN BRING A LUNCH FOR YOU
YOU'LL COME AND ROOT FOR ME, RIGHT?
BUT YOU NEED TO WIN IN THE GAME ON SUNDAY
YOU..

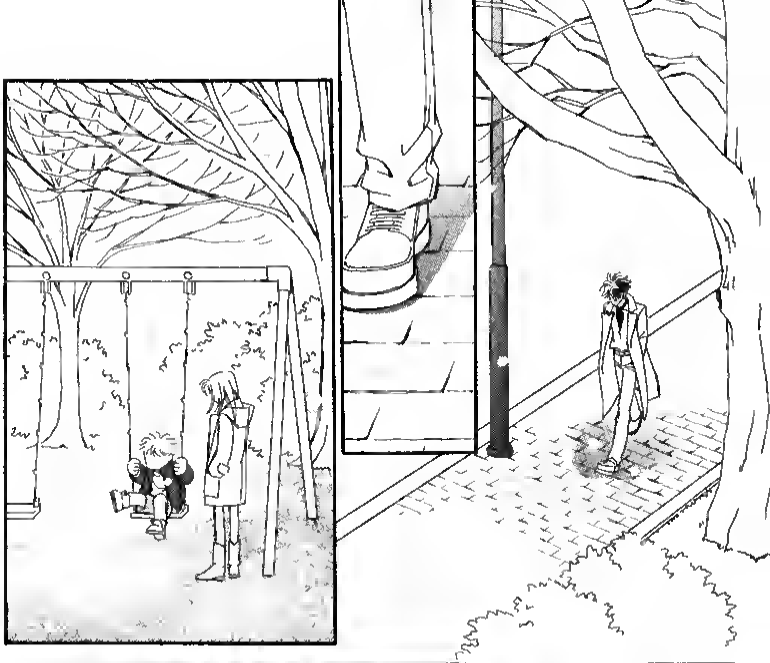
I'M HOME.
WHAT'S WRONG, RIKU?
"I LOVE YOU."
WEL-COME HOME!
DO YOU REMEM-BER OUR PROMISE ?
WE'RE STILL GOING TO THE ZOO, RIGHT?
Oh.
OF COURSE WE'LL GO SEE THE GI-RAFFES
He's not drunk.
GI-RAFFES ♡

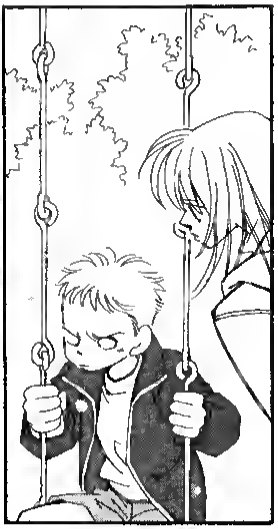
WELCOME HOME.
WHERE'S YOUR MOTHER?
TODAY, SHE HAS A LATE SHIFT
AGAIN?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
WORKING OVERTIME HAS BETTER PAY!
BUT UNTIL THIS HOUR?!
YOU MUST HAVE ANOTHER GUY!
IF I HAD ANOTHER GUY, I'D DUMP YOU IN A FLASH!
WHAT THE FUCK!

...
SNORE
SNORE
SNORE
I'M GOING TO MY FRIEND'S GAME,
SO I'M MAKING LUNCH-ES
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S STILL EARLY,
RIGHT?

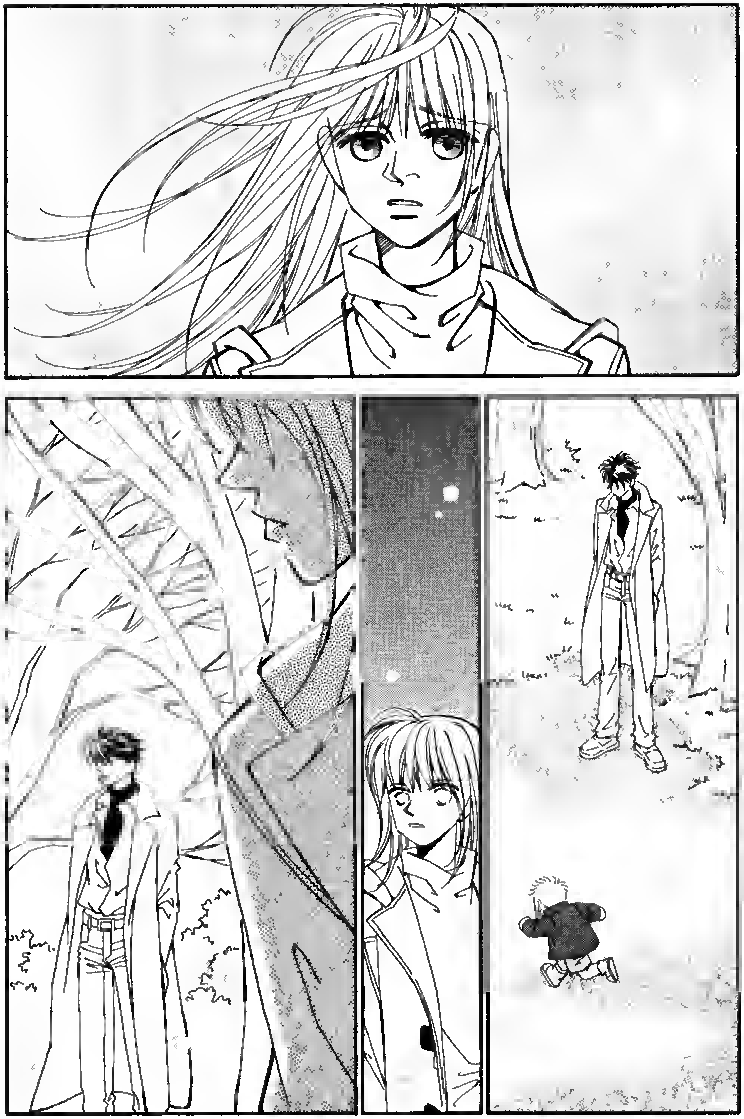
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M SORRY.
EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW I'VE DONE ALL I CAN TO CUT THIS FAMILY'S EXPENSES
WHAT A NICE THING,
GULP
THE ZOO!
I KNOW, SO WE'LL GO NEXT TIME.
YOU PROMISED!
NO!
WE'LL GO NEXT TIME.
NO, LET'S GO TODAY!
pissed off
YOU SAID WE'D GO, SO LET'S GO!

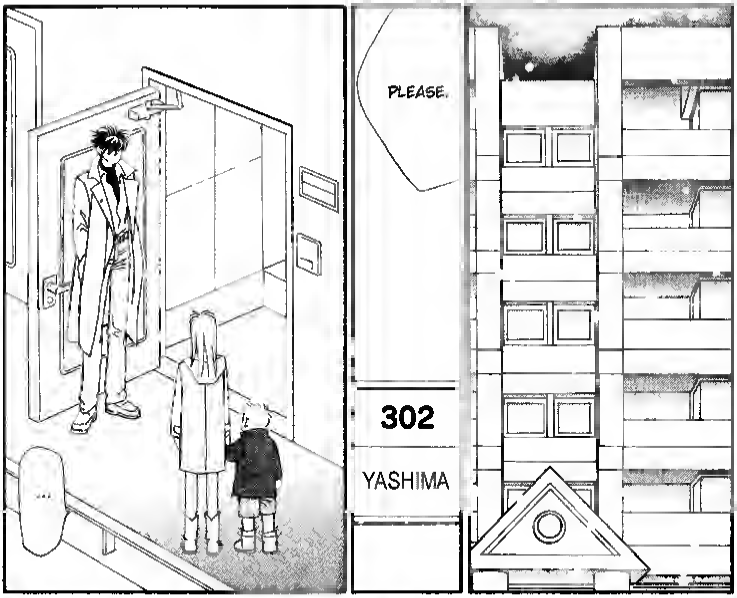
YOUR UPBRING-ING IS AWFUL!
WHAT A BRAT YOU'VE BECOME!
YOU!
THWA
SHUT UP!
AGH
RIKU!
A BRAT SHOULD LISTEN TO HIS PARENTS!
WHO GIVES YOU RICE TO EAT?!

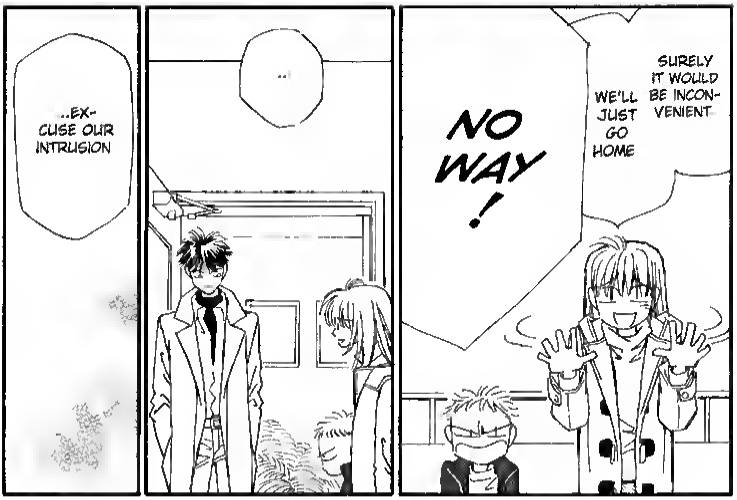


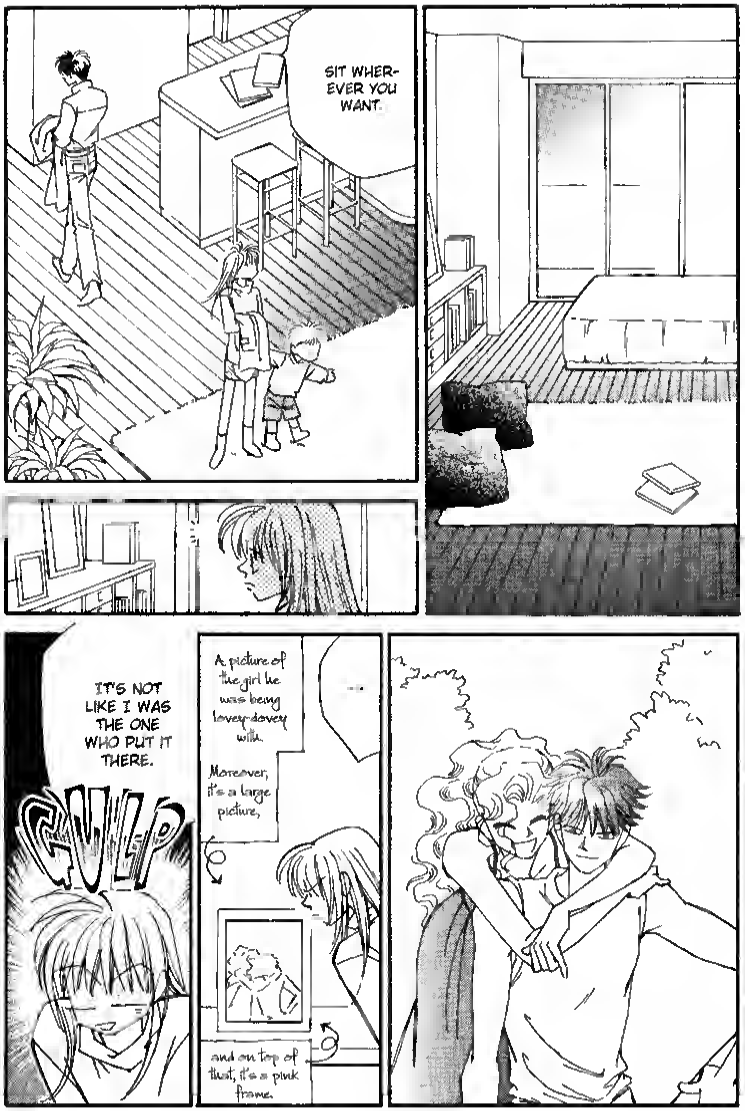


DAD LIKES YOU.
YOU KNOW THAT.
HE WAS JUST DRUNK.
DAD HATES ME NO MATTER WHAT I DO.
I HATE HIM!
OUR FATHER DRINKS—
THEN, WHY DOES HE DRINK SO MUCH?!




PLEASE.
302
YASHIMA


..EX-CUSE OUR INTRUSION
..
NO WAY!
WE'LL JUST GO HOME
SURELY IT WOULD BE INCON-VENIENT


SIT WHEREVER YOU WANT.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS THE ONE WHO PUT IT THERE.
GULP
A picture of the girl he was being lovey-dovey with.
Moreover, it's a large picture,
and on top of that, it's a pink frame.

...
?
HUH?
A DRINK.
AH, ANY-THING'S FINE.
YOU WANT A DRINK?
I'M... I'M SORRY,
I'M SORRY
WHAT... DO YOU WANT?
THEN, I'LL HAVE COFFEE.
AND THE LITTLE GUY?
HOT CHOCO-LATE
HOT CHOCO-LATE?
I'M SURE I HAVE SOME SOME-WHERE
AH, THEN I'D LIKE SOME HOT CHOCOLATE, TOO!

I'M
flinch
I'M SORRY
STARE

MY GUARDIAN REMARRIED.
AH, THAT EXPLAINS IT.
UM, UM, WHY DO YOU LIVE ALONE?
I.... I DIDN'T KNOW... YOU LIVED SO CLOSE, YASHIMA-KUN.
I JUST MOVED HERE.
I'M... I'M REALLY SORRY!
ABOUT WHAT?
Re-married
Parents divorced or one died.
Didn't get along with the new parent and so lives alone.
PALES

HERE, SQUIRT.
DON'T SPILL IT
HEY!
AH!
FLINCH

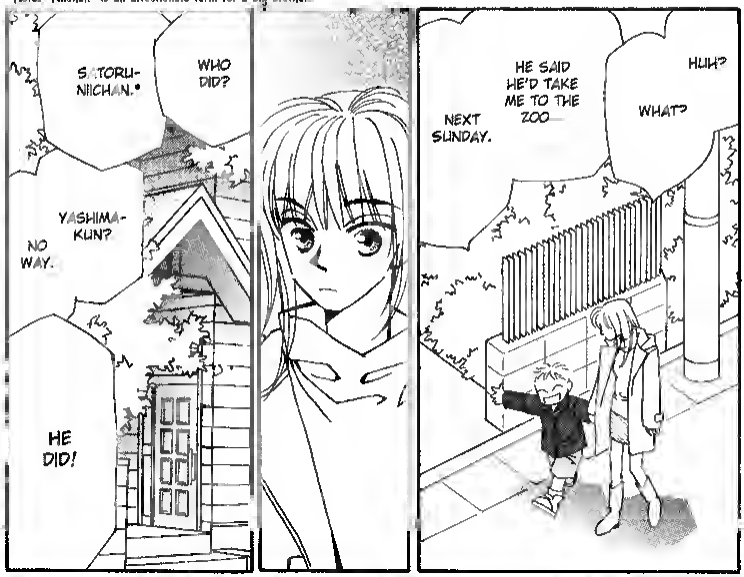
I'M REALLY SORRY!
HE DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE!
I'M SORRY, PLEASE DON'T GET ANGRY!

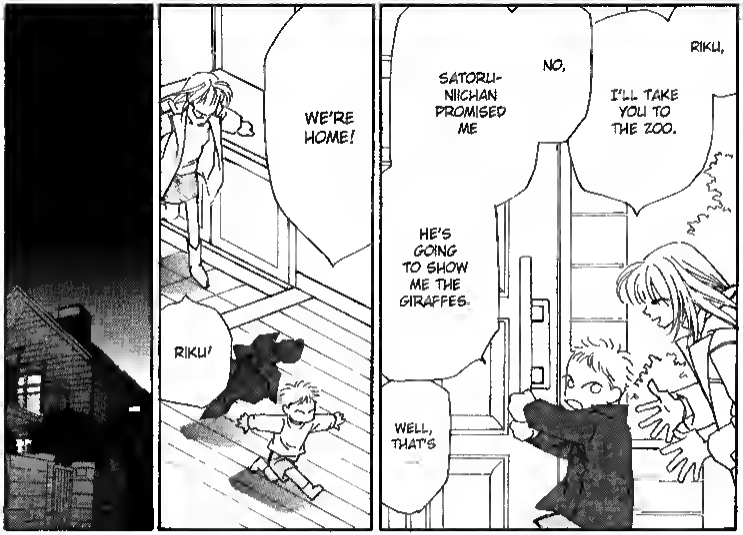
FLINCH
IF WE COOL IT,
IT WON'T LEAVE A BURN MARK
Huh?
AH!
LIFT

HEY,
DON'T RUN AROUND!
HAH HA HA HA
SWISH
IT'S COLD!
JUST HANG ON.
WAH!
SHOCK
RI-
RIKU!

Hm.
...BUT!

*Note: "Niichan" is an affectionate term for a big brother.

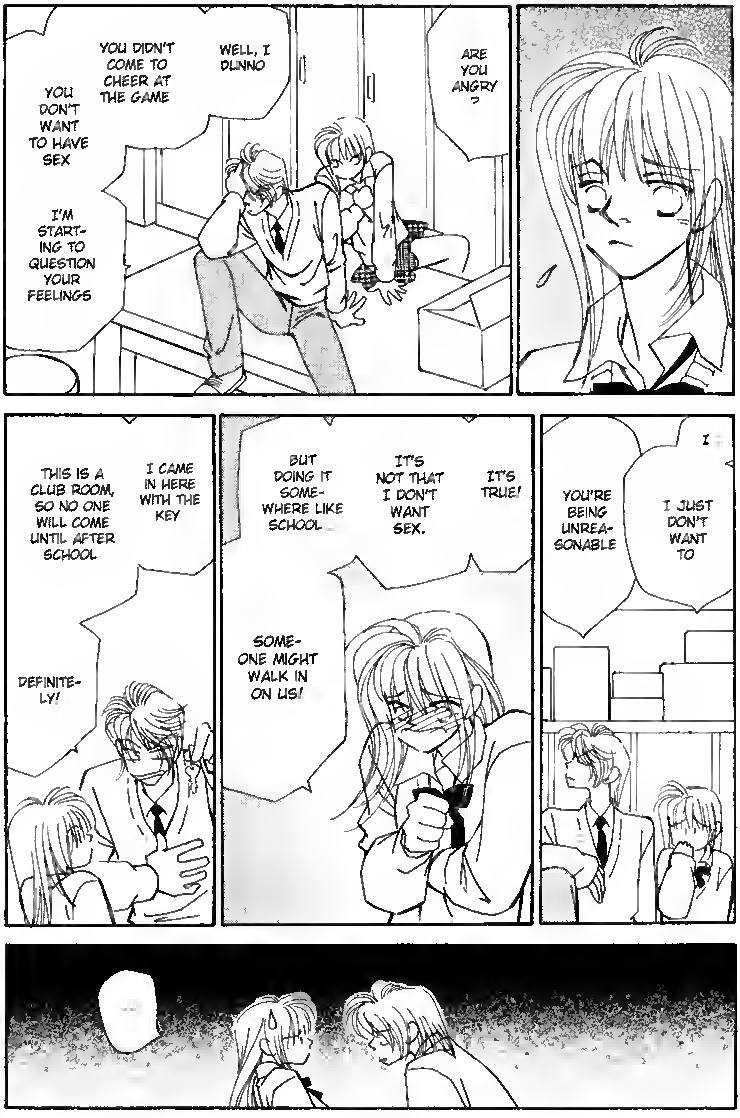




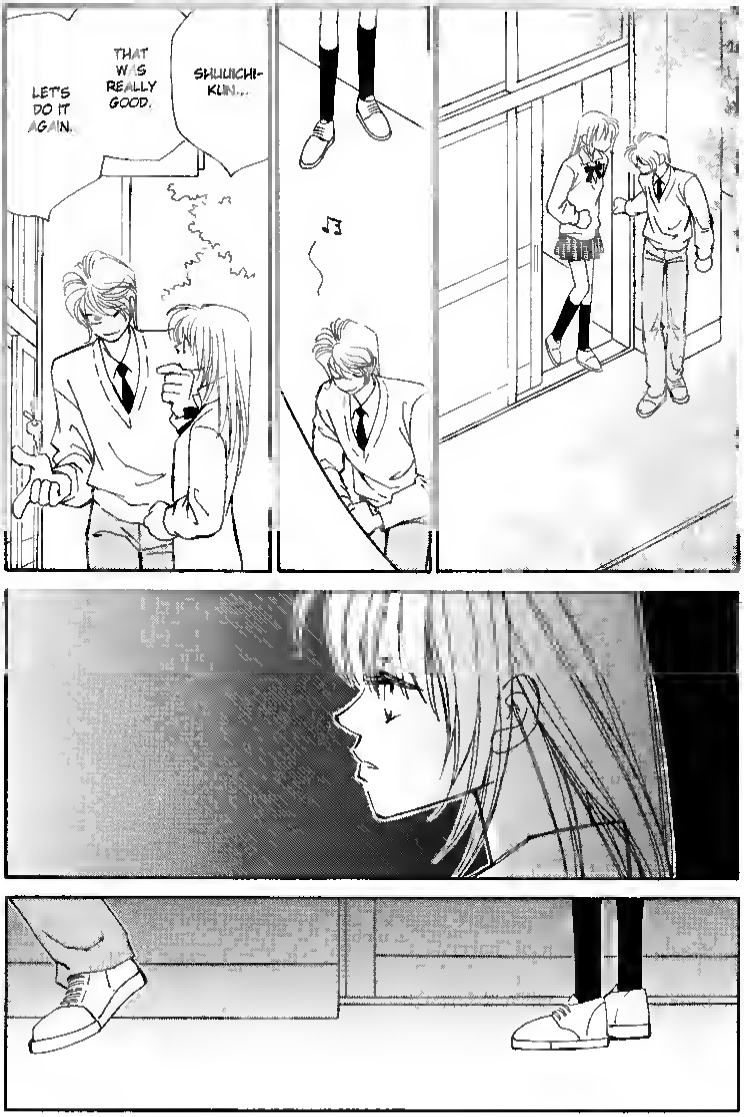
I'M SORRY.
YOU DIDN'T EVEN TELL ME YOU WEREN'T COMING.
I GOT INJURED, YOU KNOW.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
I AM...
REALLY SORRY.
Shock
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT THAT?

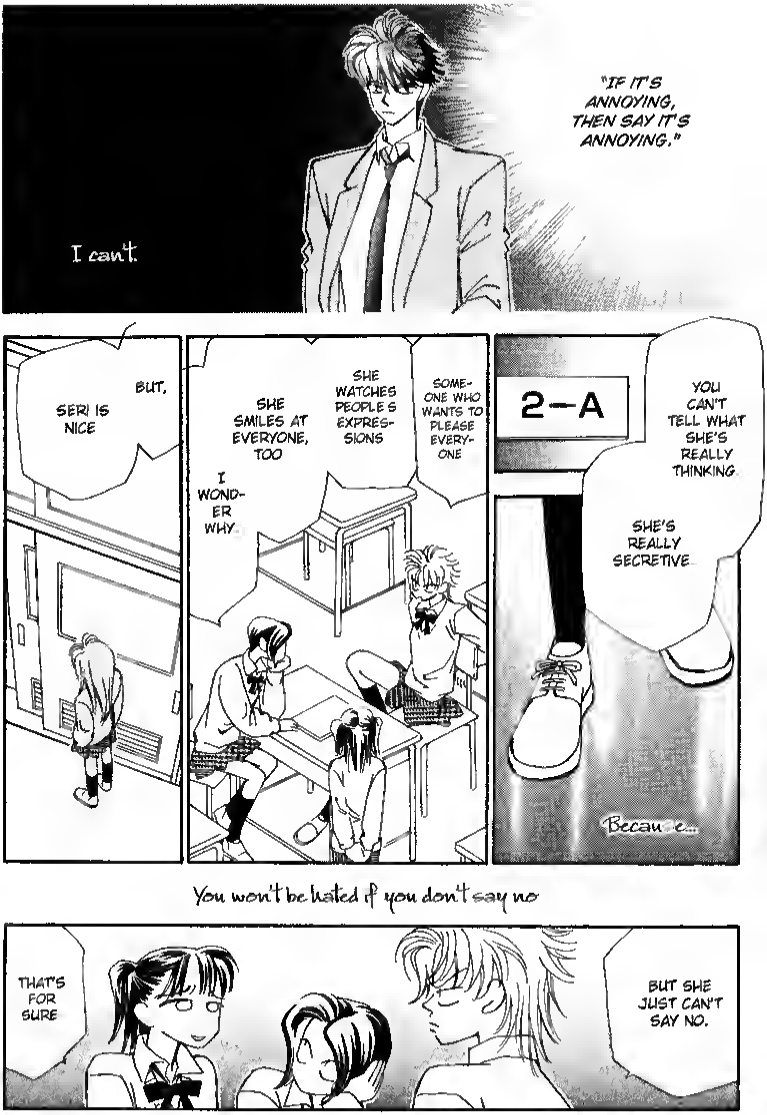
IT LOOKS LIKE...
HE'S COMING TO SCOLD.
...
SCARY
MY BAD
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
WHERE'S SERI?
THEN,
FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN GIRLS SURE IS FRAGILE
SHE'S WITH HACHIDA
MAYBE IT'S LOVE MORE THAN FRIENDSHIP
AFTER ALL

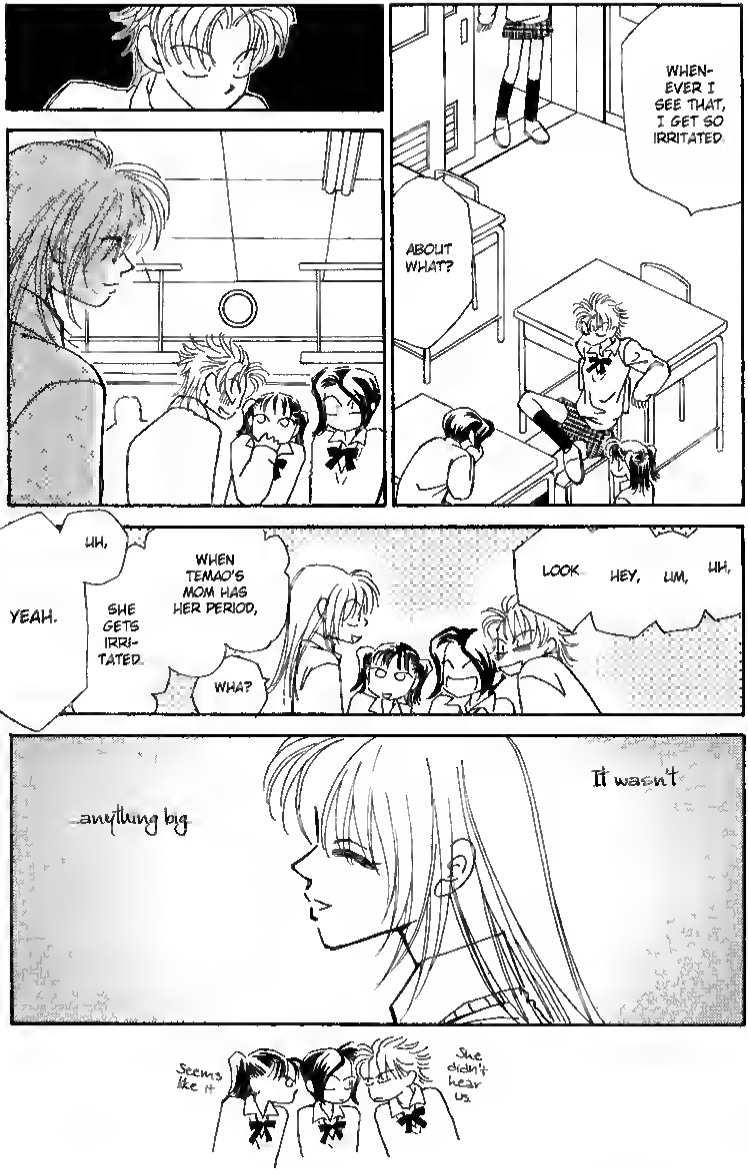
SHUU...
AH I SEE.
NO!
ARE YOU GETTING AROUSED?
NOT THERE.
NO IT'S NOT.
ISN'T THAT OK?


YOU DIDN'T COME TO CHEER AT THE GAME
WELL, I DUNNO
ARE YOU ANGRY ?
YOU DON'T WANT TO HAVE SEX
I'M START-ING TO QUESTION YOUR FEELINGS
I
I JUST DON'T WANT TO
YOU'RE BEING UNREA-SONABLE
IT'S TRUE!
IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T WANT SEX.
BUT DOING IT SOME-WHERE LIKE SCHOOL
SOME-ONE MIGHT WALK IN ON US!
I CAME IN HERE WITH THE KEY
THIS IS A CLUB ROOM, SO NO ONE WILL COME UNTIL AFTER SCHOOL
DEFINITE-LY!

MSH
I'M GOING IN.
UHN.

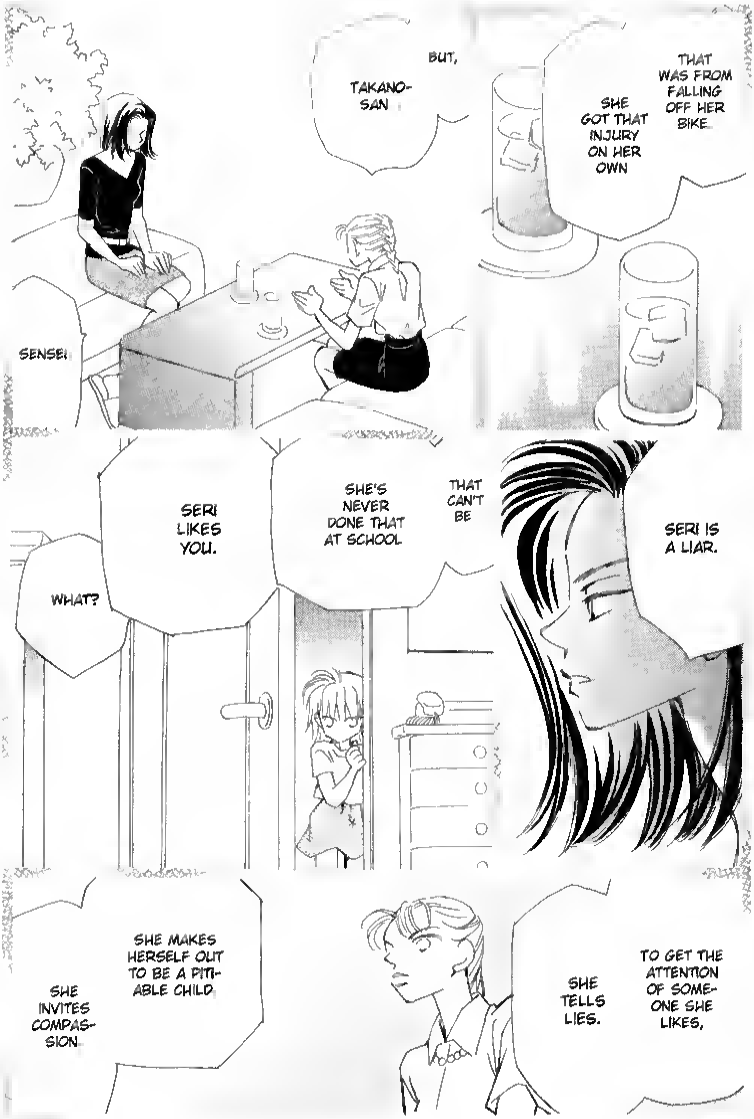

SHUUICHI-KUN...
THAT WAS REALLY GOOD.
LET'S DO IT AGAIN.

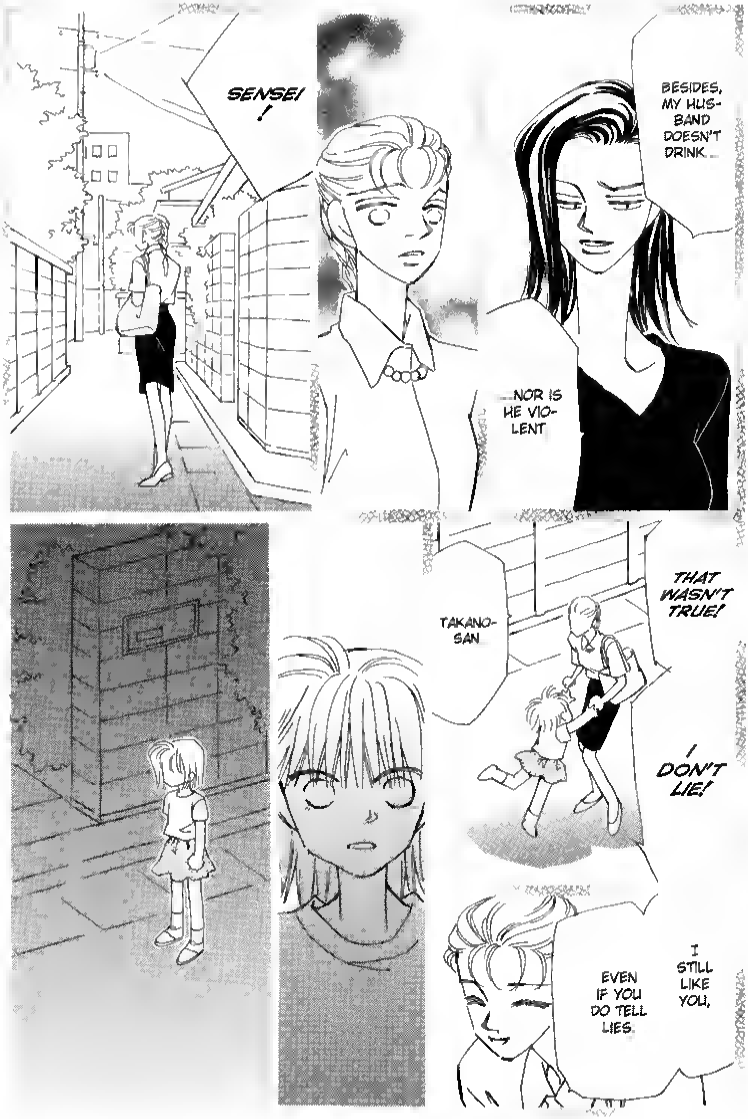

"IF IT'S ANNOYING, THEN SAY IT'S ANNOYING."
I can't.
BUT, SERI IS NICE
SHE SMILES AT EVERYONE, TOO
SHE WATCHES PEOPLE'S EXPRESSIONS
SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO PLEASE EVERYONE
I WONDER WHY
2-A
YOU CAN'T TELL WHAT SHE'S REALLY THINKING
SHE'S REALLY SECRETIVE
Because...
You won't be hated if you don't say no
THAT'S FOR SURE
BUT SHE JUST CAN'T SAY NO.


WHEN-EVER I SEE THAT, I GET SO IRRITATED.
ABOUT WHAT?
LOOK.
HEY, LIM, UH,
UH, YEAH.
SHE GETS IRRI-TATED.
WHEN TEMAO'S MOM HAS HER PERIOD,
WHA?
It wasn't anything big
Seems like it
She didn't hear us

SINCE I DID YOUR CLEANING THE OTHER DAY—
AHHH,
I REALLY CAN'T.
NAKANATA-SAN.
I'M SORRY.
I GOTTA DO SOME STUFF TODAY.
I didn't put much faith on it from the beginning
YEAH, REALLY.
In any case,
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU SO
MWA,
WASN'T THAT MEAN?
IT'S FINE
SHE ALWAYS DOES IT

When I was in elementary school...
SENSEI, I BROUGHT TODAY'S JOURNAL
AH YES THANK YOU
TAKANO-SAN IS ALWAYS SUCH A GOOD GIRL.
YOU ARE THE PRIDE OF ANY TEACHER.
That teacher...
I really liked her
YOUR ARM... WHAT HAPPENED?
MY FATHER GOT DRUNK AND BROKE SOME THINGS...
AND THEN HIT MY ARM
IT BLED A LOT, BUT...
I ENDURED IT.

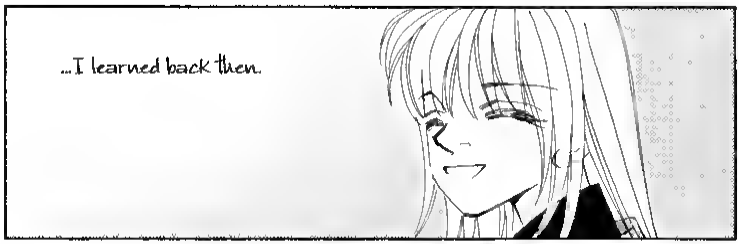

SENSEI
TAKANO-SAN
BUT,
SHE GOT THAT INJURY ON HER OWN
THAT WAS FROM FALLING OFF HER BIKE.
WHAT?
SERI LIKES YOU.
SHE'S NEVER DONE THAT AT SCHOOL
THAT CAN'T BE
SERI IS A LIAR.
SHE INVITES COMPASSION.
SHE MAKES HERSELF OUT TO BE A PITIABLE CHILD.
SHE TELLS LIES.
TO GET THE ATTENTION OF SOMEONE SHE LIKES,

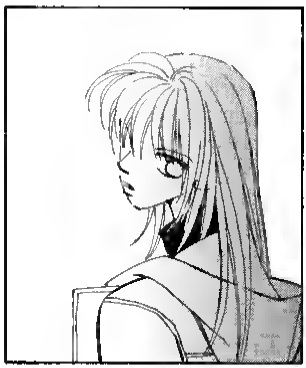

SENSEI!
BESIDES, MY HUSBAND DOESN'T DRINK...
...NOR IS HE VIOLENT
TAKANO-SAN
THAT WASN'T TRUE!
I DON'T LIE!
EVEN IF YOU DO TELL LIES.
I STILL LIKE YOU.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TALK?!
I'M.
I'M SORRY
SMACK
IF YOU CAN'T KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, THEN DON'T GO OUT!
You didn't believe in me, sensei
I'M SORRY,
I'M SORRY,
I'M SORRY!

"Believing in people will only lead to them betraying you," as the saying goes
WELCOME
A life lesson...

I was made out to be a daughter who told lies.
...by a mother who wanted to protect our name,
and a father who changes personalities when drunk


...I learned back then.



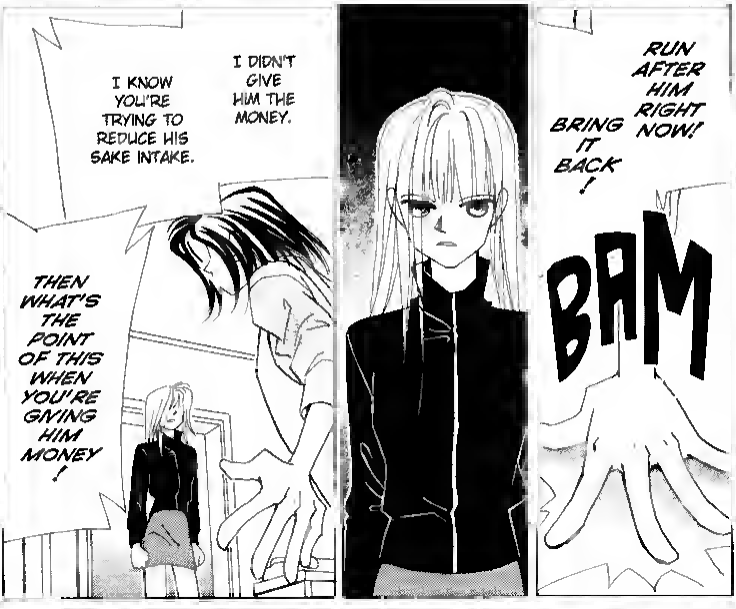
I'M HOME

CLICK

OTOWA BANK
CASH
DAD,
THAT'S THE SALARY FROM MY PART-TIME JOB
I'M JUST BORROW-ING IT FOR A WHILE.
YOU CAN'T!
IT'S FOR MY PHONE BILLS!
SHUT UP!

DAD!
MOM!
DAD STOLE MY MONEY!

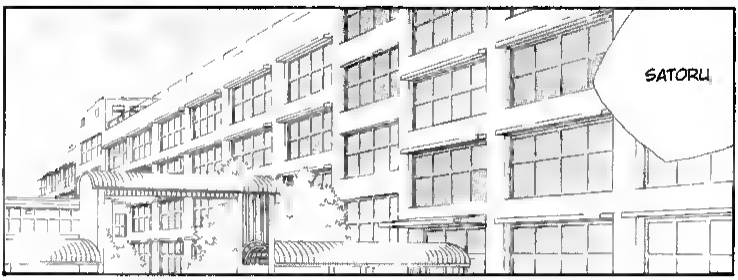
YOU GAVE HIM MONEY TO BUY SAKE?!


I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING TO REDUCE HIS SAKE INTAKE.
I DIDN'T GIVE HIM THE MONEY.
THEN WHAT'S THE POINT OF THIS WHEN YOU'RE GIVING HIM MONEY!
BRING IT BACK!
RUN AFTER HIM RIGHT NOW!
BAM

It's nothing of importance..

I can't feel anything anymore.

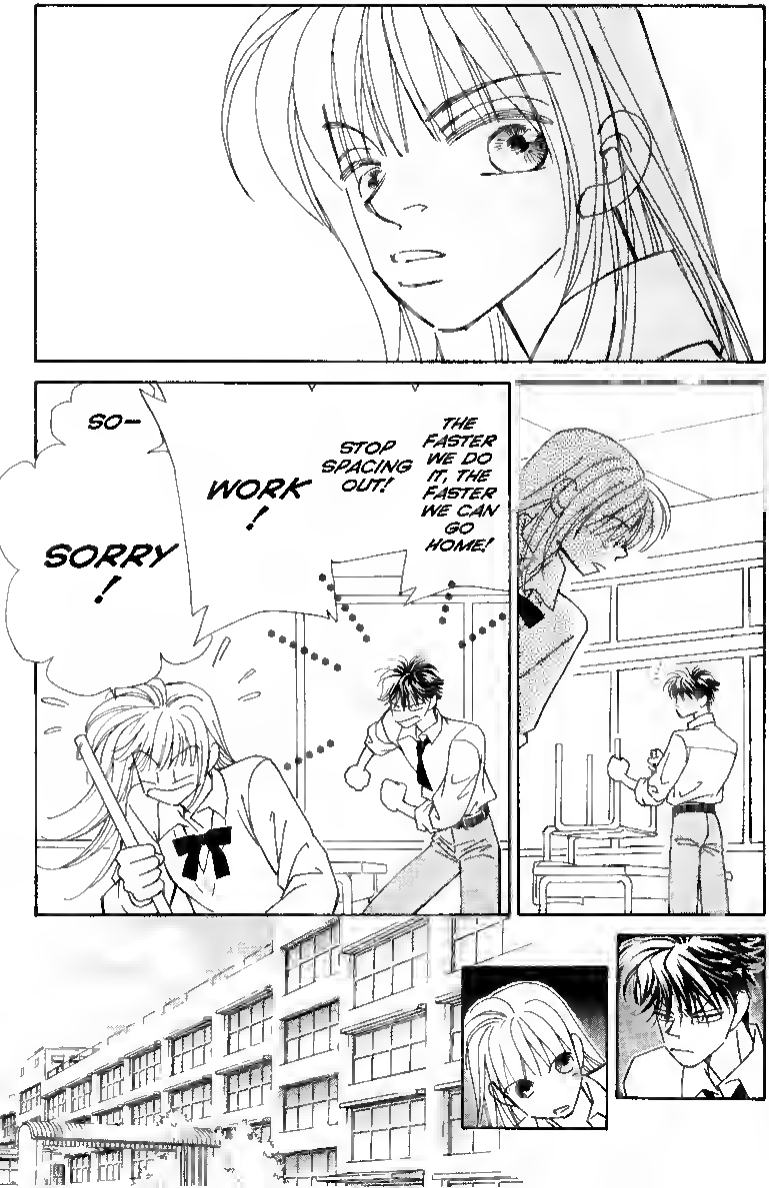
This kind of thing...
It's nothing.
I'M SORRY

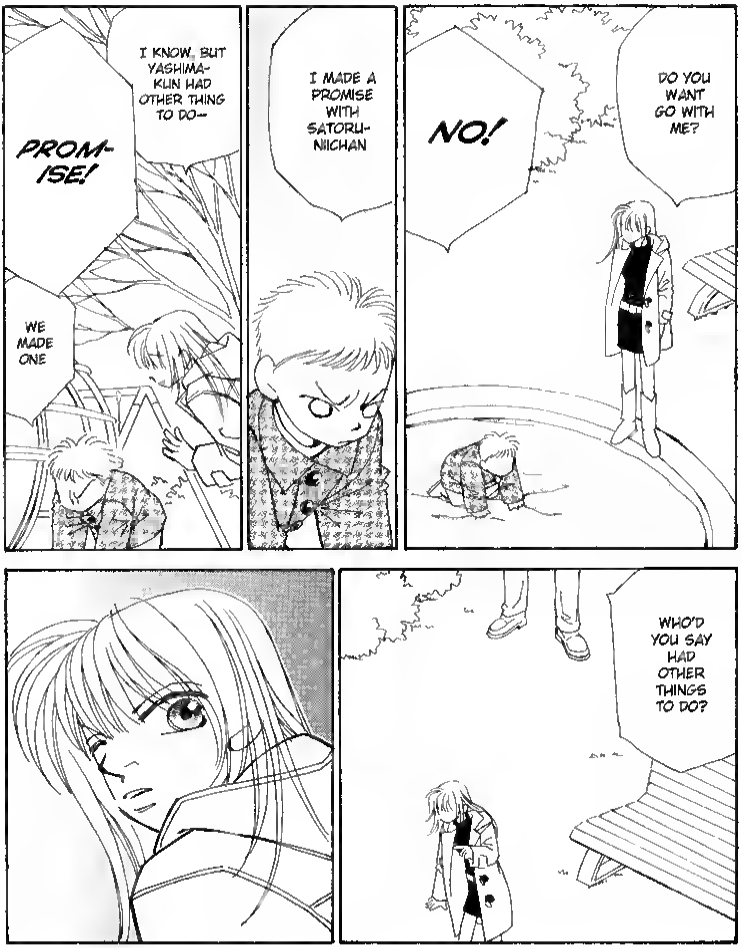

SATORU

NEXT SUNDAY.
WHEN?
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO GO?
THERE'S GONNA BE A PREVIEW SHOW.
"...NEXT SUNDAY."
"HE SAID HE'D TAKE ME TO THE ZOO..."
...
OH, CRAP!
SERI, DON'T YOU HAVE NEXT CLEANING DUTY?

RANZE
2—A
AH.

ARE YOU... CLEANING BY YOURSELF AGAIN?
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S BUSY
AREN'T YOU AN IDIOT—
well yeah
clunk
clunk


SO-
SORRY!
WORK!
STOP SPACING OUT!
THE FASTER WE DO IT, THE FASTER WE CAN GO HOME!


DO YOU WANT GO WITH ME?
NO!
I MADE A PROMISE WITH SATORU-NIICHAN
I KNOW, BUT YASHIMA-KUN HAD OTHER THING TO DO--
PROM-ISE!
WE MADE ONE
WHO'D YOU SAY HAD OTHER THINGS TO DO?

SATORU-NIICHAN!
HEY, SQUIRT.
BUT, THE PREVIEW SHOW.
WHAT? YOU'RE LOOKING LIKE AN IDIOT.
HUH?
THIS PROMISE CAME FIRST.

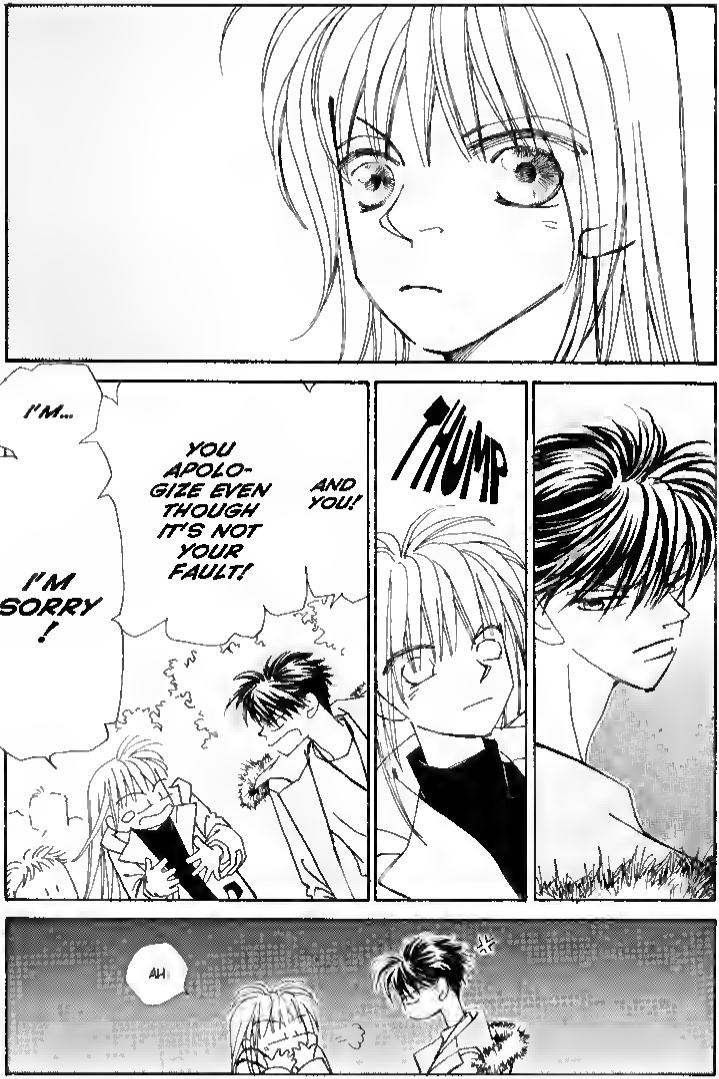
AREN'T YOU COMING ?
I'M...
I'M COM-ING!
?

SPLASH
LOOK, LOOK!
A POLAR BEAR!
WOW!
WHAT'S NEXT?
THE PEN-GUIN PARADE!

THUMP
Huh.
Why?
THUMP THUMP THUMP

AHHH!
BUMP
No way
MAA-KUN!
HEY, YOU! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
ARE YOU HURT, MAA-KUN?!
SO-
SORRY
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO HIM, I'LL BE HOLDING YOU RESPONSIBLE!

THAT KID WASN'T LOOKING AT WHERE HE WAS RUNNING TO
IF YOU'RE HIS PARENT, YOU SHOULD KEEP A BETTER EYE ON HIM.
IT'S YOU, MA'AM
IF THERE'S SOMEONE WHO SHOULD TAKE THE RESPONSI-BILITY HERE
REALLY
WHA-?!
WE'RE GOING, MAA-KUN!
HOW RUDE!


I'M...
I'M SORRY!
YOU APOLO-GIZE EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!
AND YOU!
THUMP
AH

What should I do?

HEY.
I..
I like Yashima-kun

NO!
I SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO!
IT'S OK, LET'S JUST DO IT.
AND IT'LL BE OVER SOON.
SHUU-ICHI-KUN!
SOCCER CLUB
SHUU...
I LOVE YOU.
IF YOU SHOUT OTHER PEOPLE MIGHT COME
gulp

CRAP.
I'VE GOT P.E. CLASS NEXT.
I'M GONNA GO
HERE IS THE KEY.
SEE YA

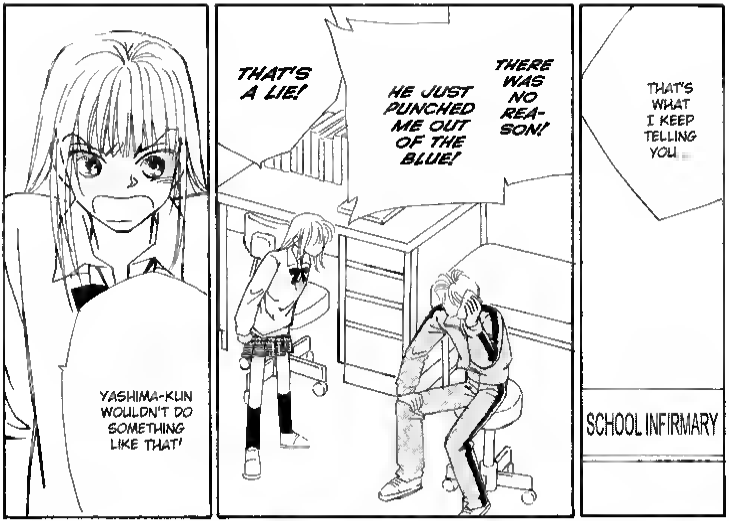
"I LOVE YOU."
"I LIKE YOU."
LIES
ALL OF IT.

ALL I SAID WAS "I LIKE YOU,"
AND SHE OPENED HER LEGS
SHE'S EASY
SHE'S OBSESSED WITH ME
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS LIKE THAT...
SHE SEEMS SO QUIET, BUT I GUESS NOT...
IT WAS WITH A-GROUP'S TAKANO SERI, RIGHT?
WE DID IT RAW.
IT WAS BRUTAL
I EXPECTED HER TO BE UNWILLING
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
...A THREE-SOME
WONDER IF SHE'D DO...
SHE'LL LET ME DO IT NEXT TIME, TOO
HUH
tap
SHE DOES WHAT SHE'S TOLD
IF I SAY, "I LOVE YOU,"
IT'S OK

WHACK
YA-SHIMA!
STOP STOP!!
CHATTER CHATTER

2—A
ALL RIGHT.
CHATTER CHATTER
?
SERI,
WHERE WERE YOU?!
IT'S TERRIBLE!
HAPPEN?
DID SOMETHING

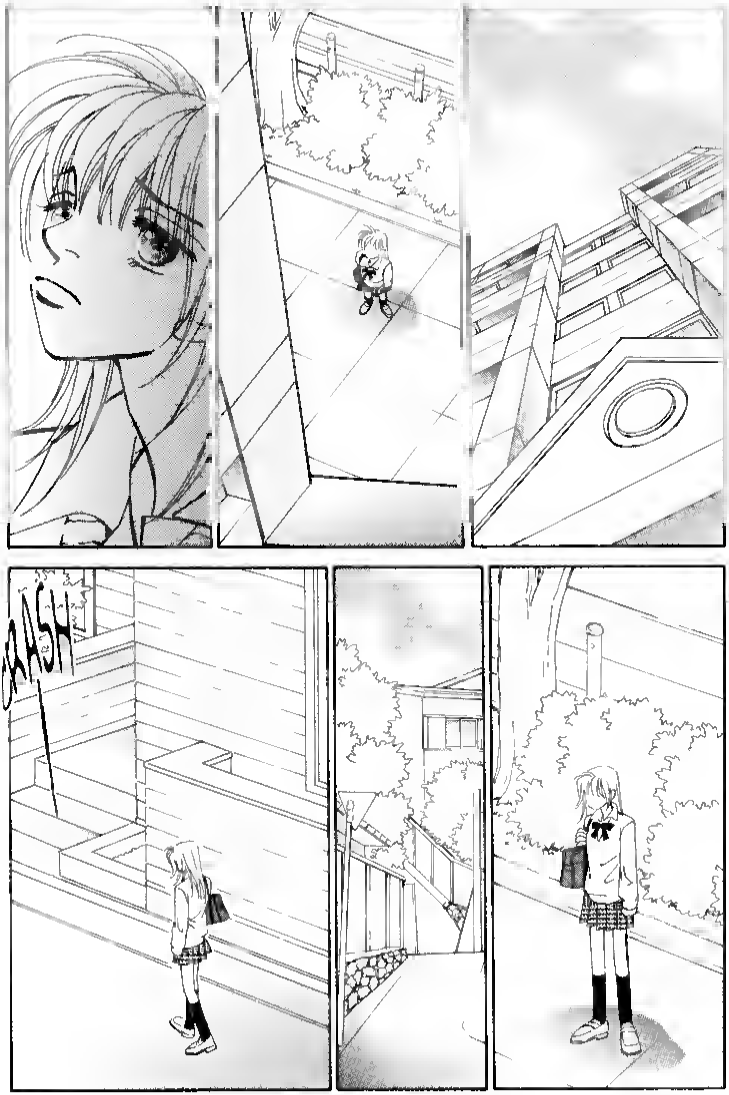
HUH?
WHY DID YOU...
...PUNCH HARADA?
P.E. STAFF ROOM


YASHIMA-KUN WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
THAT'S A LIE!
HE JUST PUNCHED ME OUT OF THE BLUE!
THERE WAS NO REA-SON!
THAT'S WHAT I KEEP TELLING YOU...
SCHOOL INFIRMARY

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GUY MORE THAN ME?
WHAT IS THIS?

YA-SHIMA-KUN!
MY SUS-PENSION IS FOR THREE DAYS.
THAT STRICT?
YEAH.
I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
I CAN TAKE NOTES FOR YOU.
WHAT HAPPEN-ED?

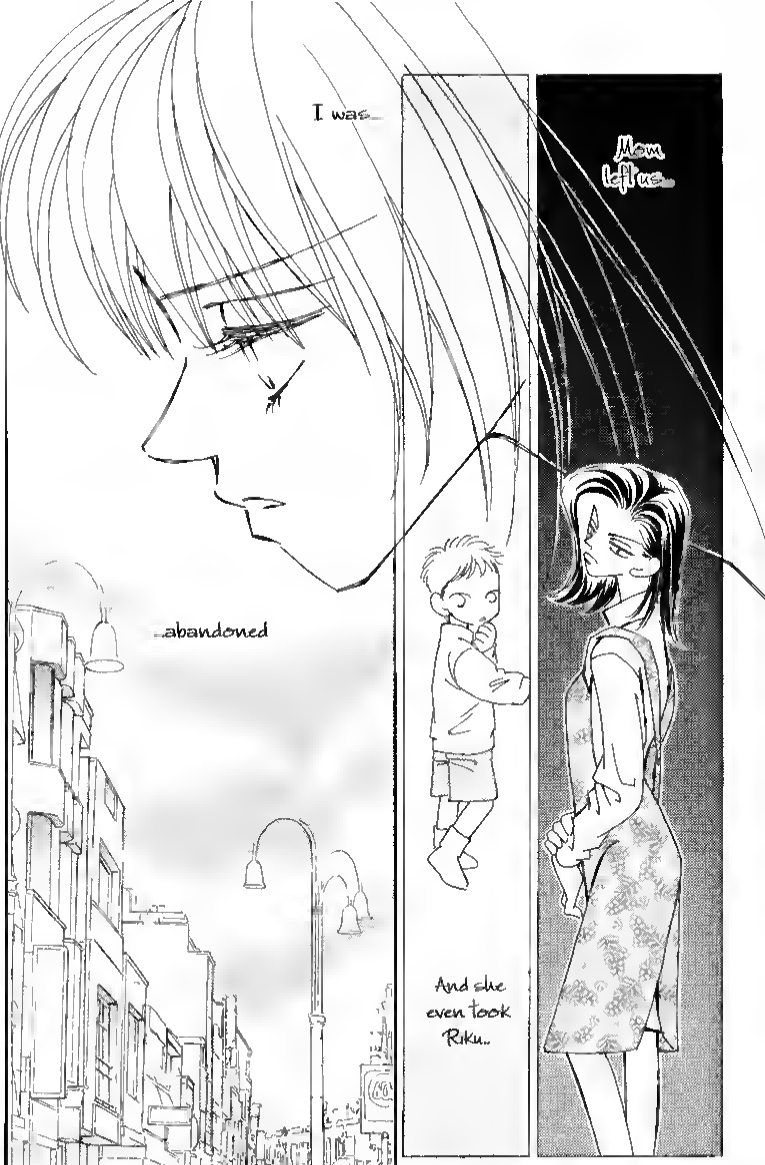
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
Dirty
Dirty

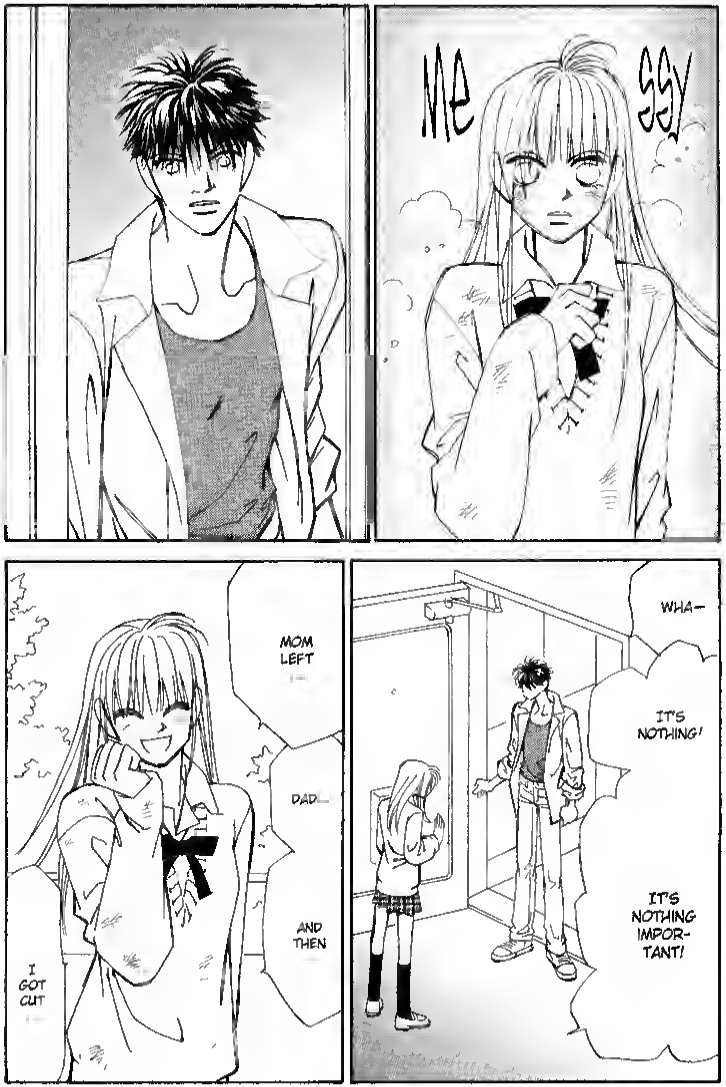

CRASH

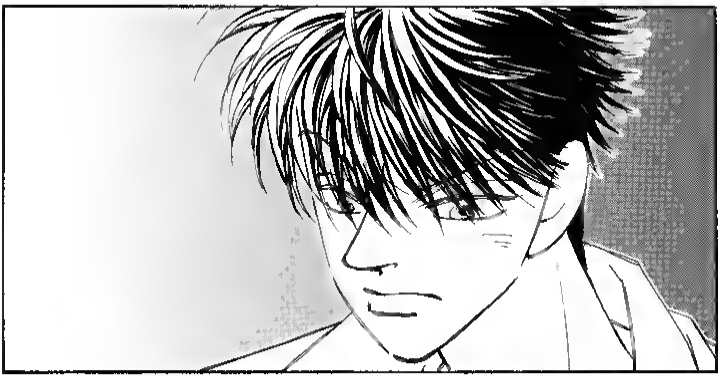
DAD!
CRASH
DAD!
STOP!

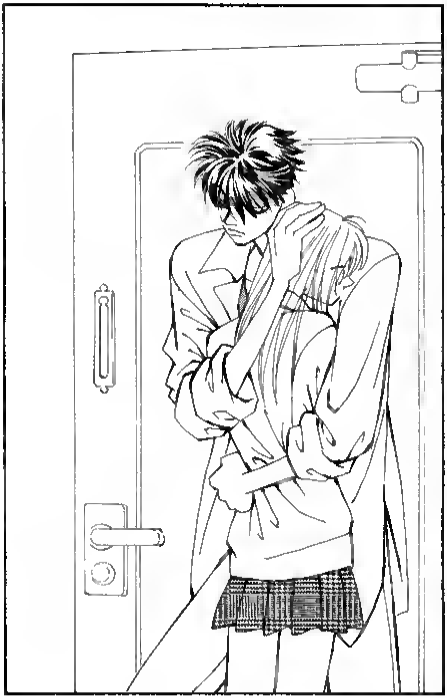
YOUR MOM LEFT
huff huff
SHE HOOKED UP WITH A GUY AND TOOK RIKU
SHE LEFT!

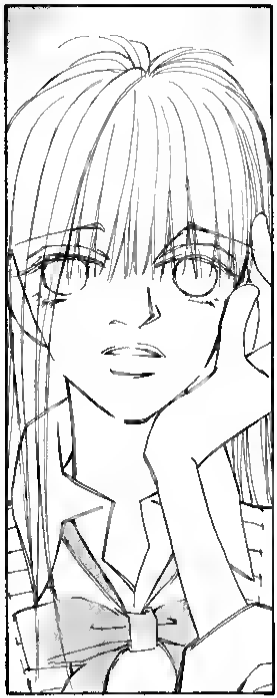
I BET YOU KNEW ABOUT IT
I DIDN'T KNOW
YOU DE-SPISE ME!
YOU ALWAYS LOOK AT ME LIKE I'M STU-PID!
NO...
YOU ACT LIKE I'M STU-PID!
HOW DARE YOU ACT LIKE I'M STUPID?!
SLAP
SLAP
SLAP


I was...
...abandoned
Mom left us...
And she even took Riku...


Me
ssy
MOM LEFT
DAD...
AND THEN
I GOT CUT
WHA—
IT'S NOTHING!
IT'S NOTHING IMPOR-TANT!







HOW CAN YOU SAY IT'S NOTHING IMPORTANT?
SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
IDIOT.

SQUEEZE

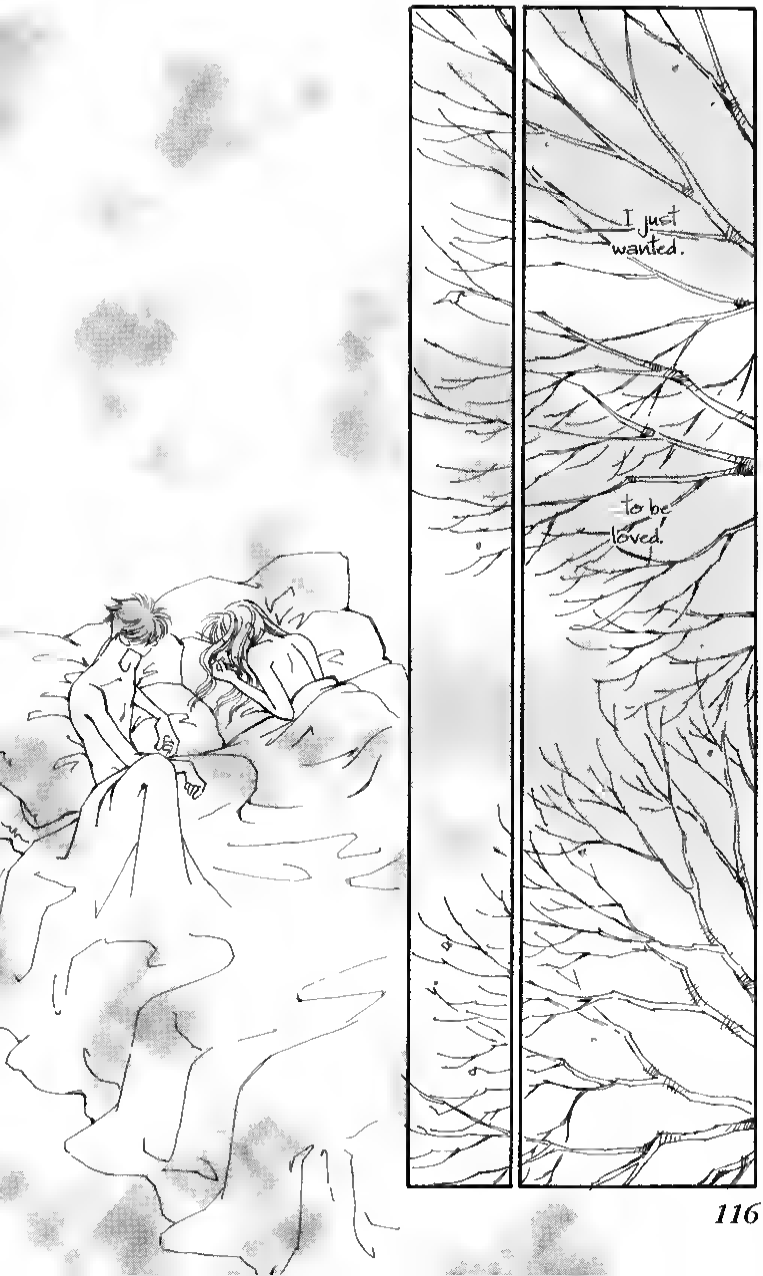
A child who receives no love
An indifferent mother.
A father who loves alcohol more than his own children.
People who don't work and still receive praise.
People who won't be acknowledged if they don't work.
That's why I'm a good girl..
..someone who can be of use to others.

Because I'm not someone who's loved...

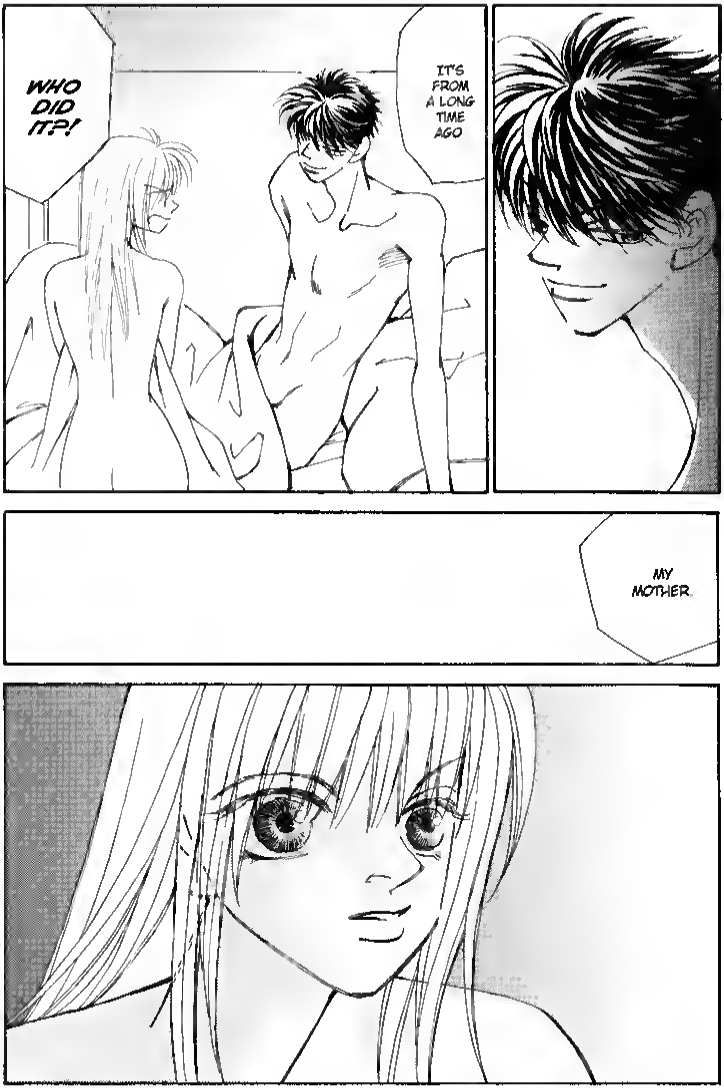
If I'm not a good girl...

If I'm not someone who's useful to others...

I'll be abandoned...


I just wanted.
to be loved.

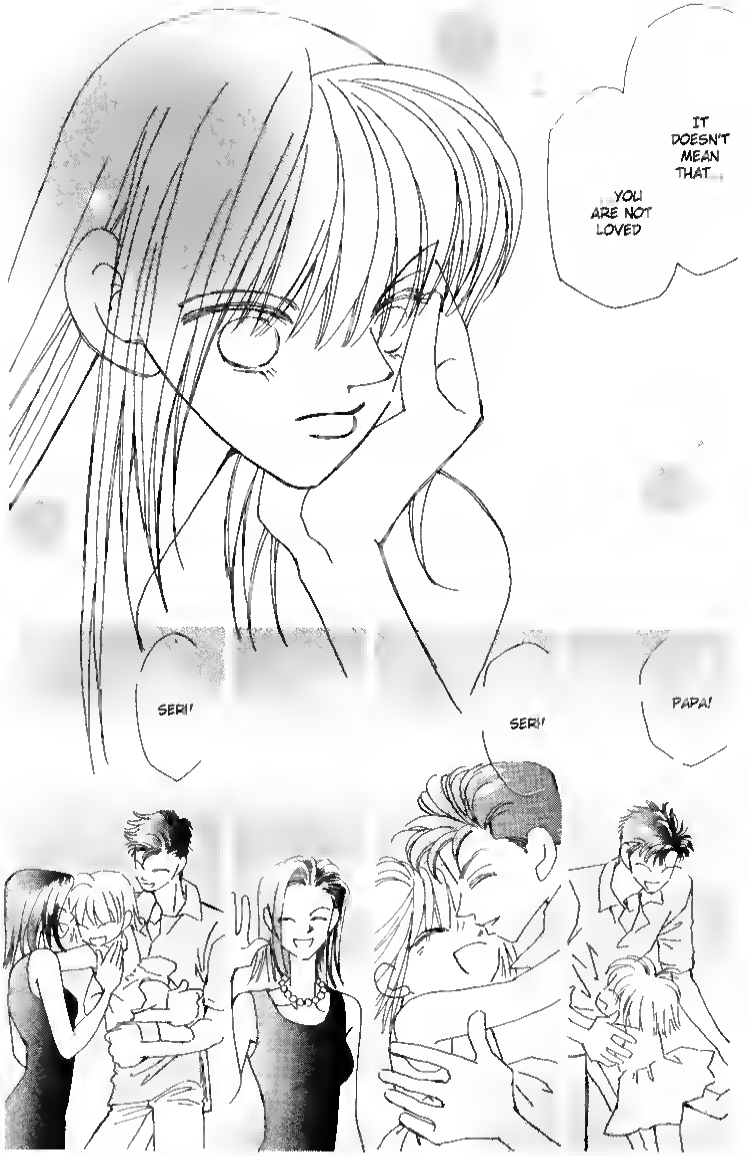
Liar
...HOW AWFUL!


WHO DID IT?!
IT'S FROM A LONG TIME AGO
MY MOTHER

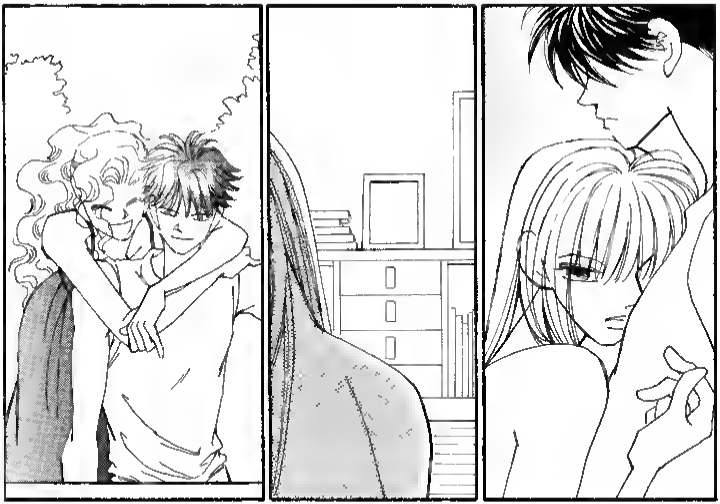
MOTHER WOULD DRINK A LOT...
WHEN SHE WAS DUMPED SHE WOULD BLAME IT ON ME...
...AND BEAT ME...
BUT WHEN SHE WASN'T DRINKING...
SHE WAS A KIND MOTHER.
HOWEVER, SHE WAS RARELY...
...IN A SOBER STATE.

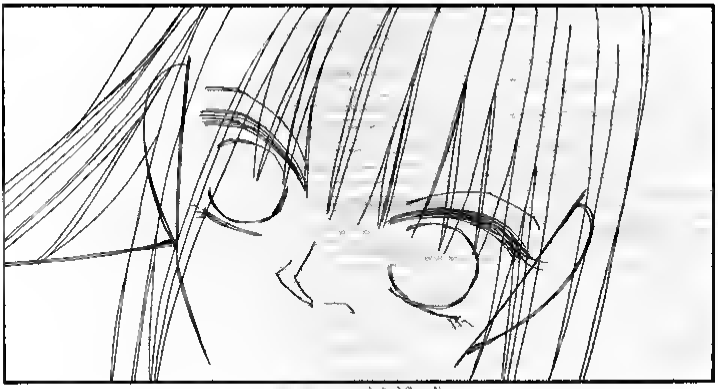
WHERE IS SHE NOW?
WHEN I WAS SEVEN,
SHE WENT DRIVING WHILE DRUNK
SHE WAS KILLED INSTANT-LY
ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE
... IS AN ILLNESS

Alcohol is a drug
SHE HIT ME BECAUSE SHE WAS SICK
SHE DIDN'T HIT ME BECAUSE SHE HATED ME
..that controls both the body and the heart..
BUT NOW I UNDER-STAND
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?


IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT...
YOU ARE NOT LOVED
SERI!
SERI!
PAPA!

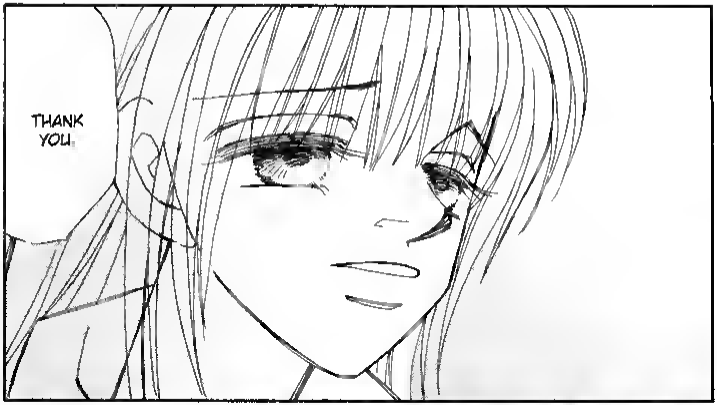
SERI IS...
...DADDY'S LITTLE PRINCESS!





AH...
SHOVE
I'VE GOTTA GO HOME
TAKANO?
MY DAD SHOULD'VE CALMED DOWN BY NOW.
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM LIKE THAT

NO, IT'S OK!
I'LL WALK YOU HOME


THANK YOU.

SLAM

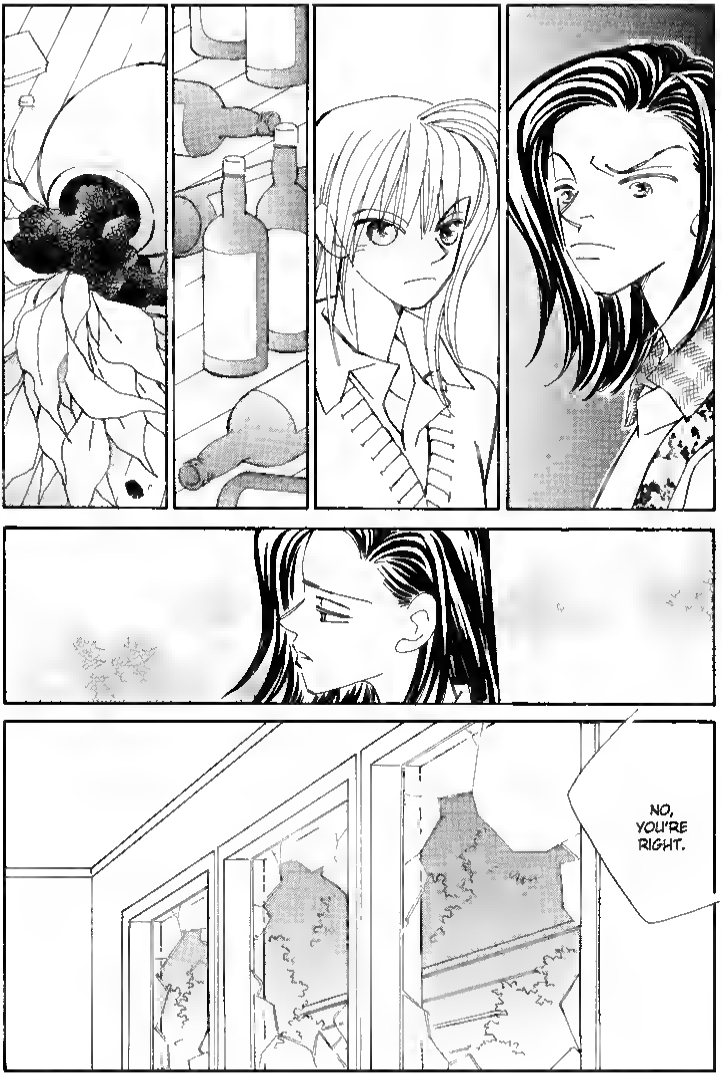
YASHIMA-KUN.
YOU ARE TOO KIND...
YOU'LL GIVE ME... THE WRONG IDEA.

I SHOULD HAVE BEATEN HIM UP SOME MORE
"SHE'S OBSESSED WITH ME."

HUH?!
MOM!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
ARE YOU COMING BACK?!
I JUST TOOK RIKU TO THE DENTIST
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HUH?!
BUT...
DAD SAID...
DID HE SAY I LEFT WITH ANOTHER GUY?
Y—
YEAH
IF I HAD REALLY LEFT...
—I WOULD HAVE TAKEN YOU WITH ME—
STUPID!
THAT WAS THE IMAGINATION OF A DRUNKEN MAN—
TO BELIEVE THAT—
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?
IDIOT!

OF COURSE
YOU WOULD BRING ME WITH YOU?
THAT IF YOU LEFT...
WHAT?
REALLY?
WHAT?
SUCH A STRANGE CHILD

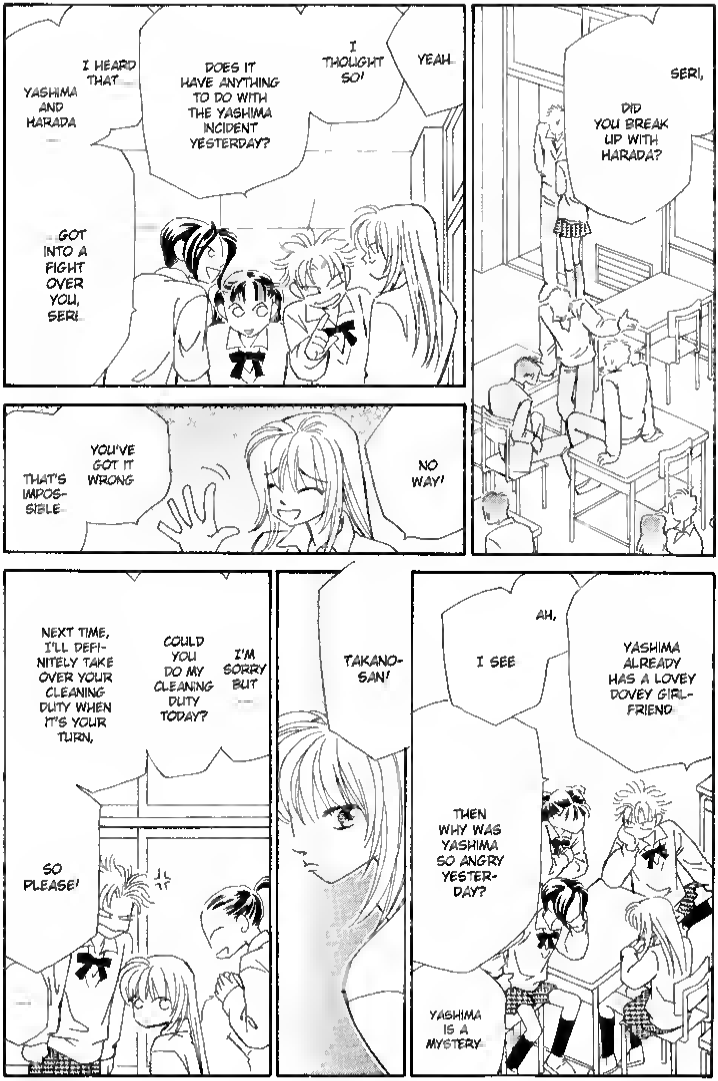
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
MOM...
WHAT?
DAD...
...IS AN ALCOHOLIC
AM I WRONG?
SERI!


NO, YOU'RE RIGHT.

SLAM
SNORE
SNORE
ASK
ALCOHOL DRUG PROBLEMS
MENTAL AND HEALTH WELFARE
ALCOHOL CONSULTATION
AA
JAPAN SERVICE OF
HELLO
I WOULD LIKE TO ASK FOR ADVICE
RE-GARDING MY HUS-BAND'S DRINKING PROBLEM

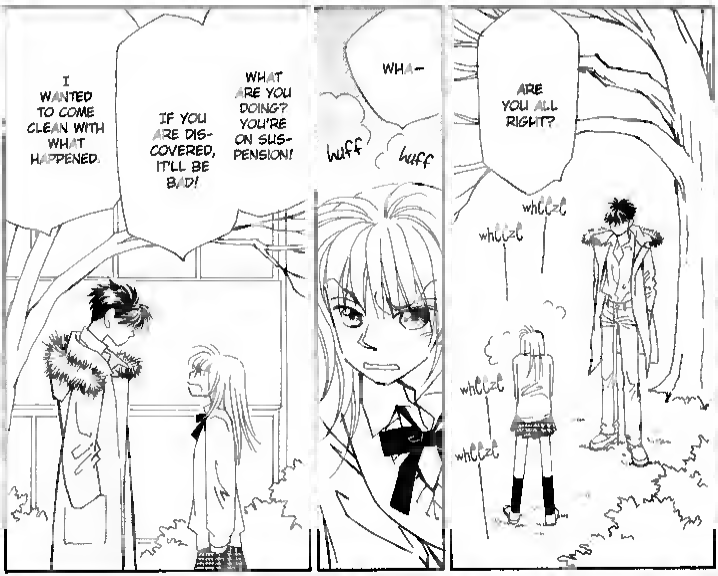
I...
I APOLOGIZE FOR YESTERDAY.
MY BAD.
SORRY.
HEY, CHEER UP!
SHUUICHI-KUN, I LIKE YOU.
ME, TOO
BUT
I REALIZED
THAT I...
ONLY LIKED YOU BECAUSE YOU TOLD ME YOU LIKED ME

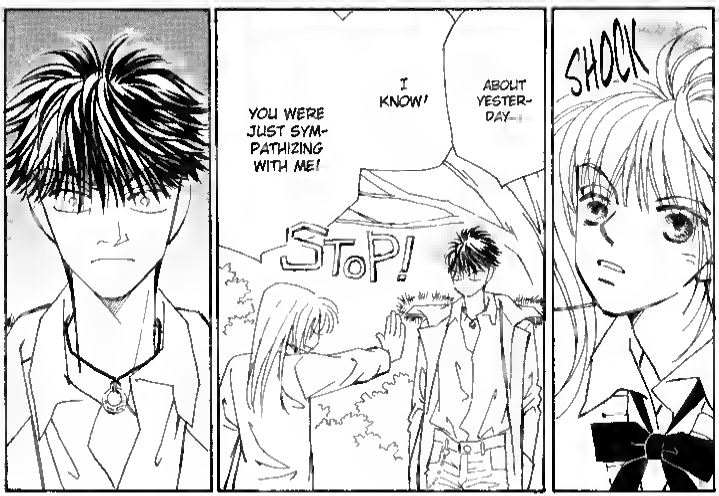
BUT,
WITH YASHIMA-KUN, IT'S DIFFERENT.
IF YOU HADN'T TOLD ME YOU LIKED ME...
I WOULDN'T HAVE LIKED YOU.
YASHIMA-KUN DOESN'T LIKE ME
BUT
I LIKE HIM.

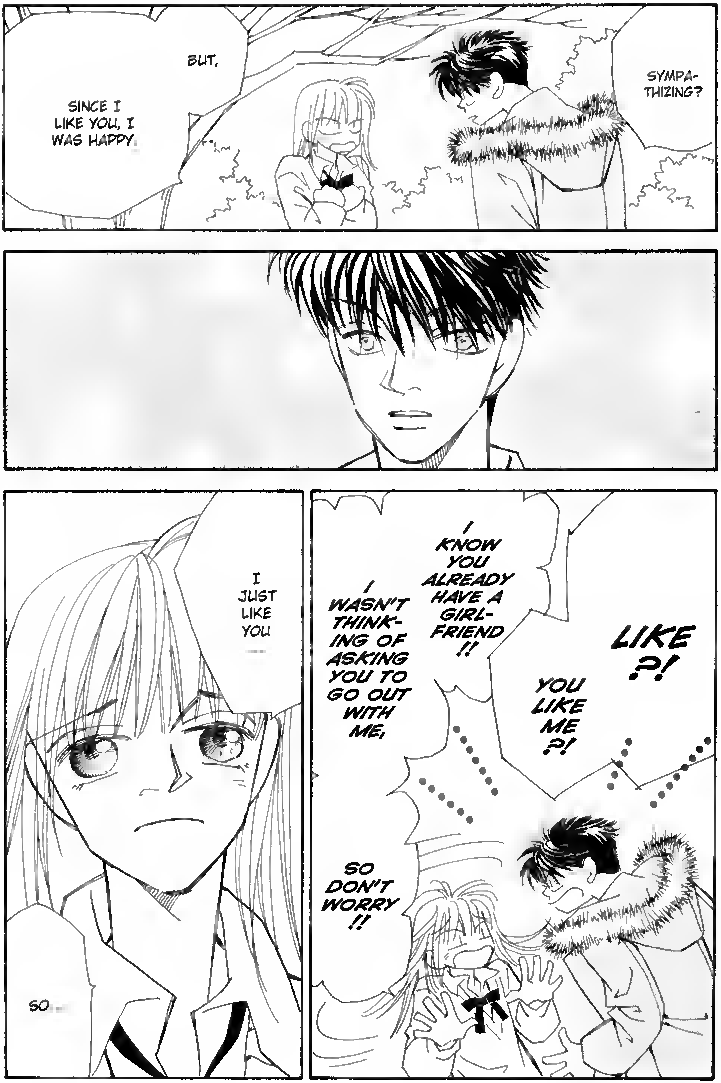

I HEARD THAT YASHIMA AND HARADA GOT INTO A FIGHT OVER YOU, SERI
DOES IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE YASHIMA INCIDENT YESTERDAY?
I THOUGHT SO!
YEAH
SERI, DID YOU BREAK UP WITH HARADA?
NO WAY!
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
I'M SORRY BUT
COULD YOU DO MY CLEANING DUTY TODAY?
NEXT TIME, I'LL DEFINITELY TAKE OVER YOUR CLEANING DUTY WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN,
SO PLEASE!
TAKANO-SAN!
AH,
I SEE
YASHIMA ALREADY HAS A LOVEY DOVEY GIRLFRIEND
THEN WHY WAS YASHIMA SO ANGRY YESTERDAY?
YASHIMA IS A MYSTERY

...BUT YOU SHOULD DO YOUR OWN WORK
I'M SORRY
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT.
THUMP THUMP
I...
I SAID IT...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
PUNCH
NO WAY!!

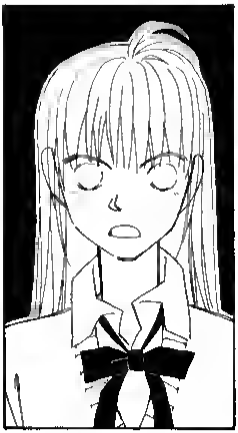
WHA—
YASHIMA'S HERE
HE'S SUSPENDED
BUT
IT'S YASHIMA.
PRZ

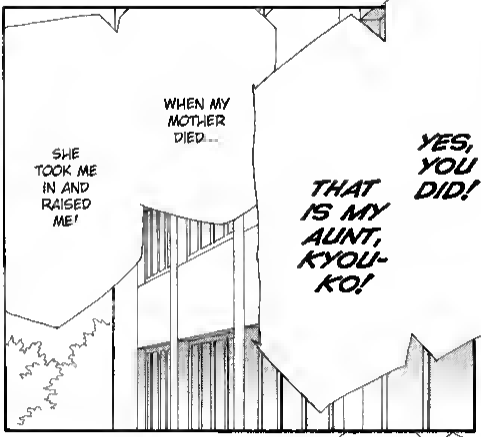

I WANTED TO COME CLEAN WITH WHAT HAPPENED.
IF YOU ARE DISCOVERED, IT'LL BE BAD!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE ON SUSPENSION!
WHA-
huff huff
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
whizz
whizz
whizz
whizz

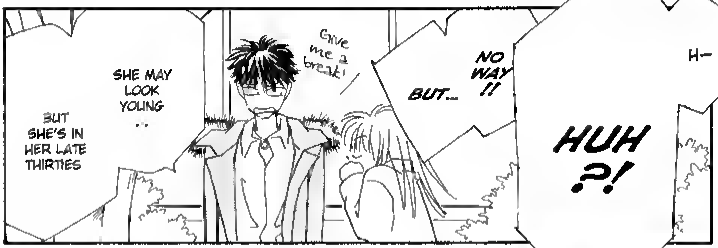

YOU WERE JUST SYMPATHIZING WITH ME!
I KNOW!
ABOUT YESTERDAY—
STOP!
SHOCK

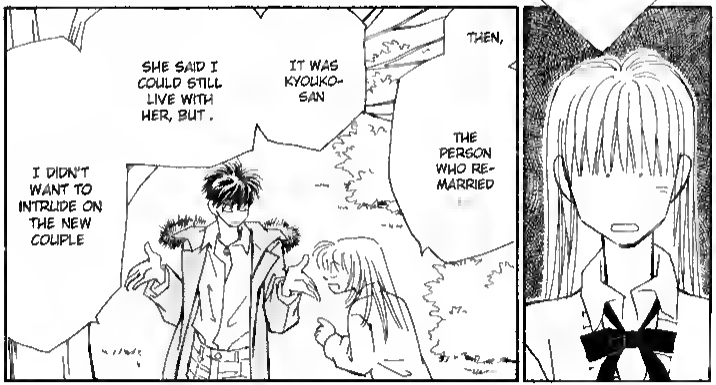

SINCE I LIKE YOU, I WAS HAPPY.
BUT,
SYMPA-THIZING?
I JUST LIKE YOU
SO
I KNOW YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND !!
I WASN'T THINK-ING OF ASKING YOU TO GO OUT WITH ME.
LIKE ?!
YOU LIKE ME ?!
SO DON'T WORRY !!

DID I GET IT WRONG?
WHAT?!
THE OLDER GIRL IN THE PICTURE GIRL-FRIEND?
WHO?
ISN'T SHE YOUR LOVER?




YES, YOU DID!
THAT IS MY AUNT, KYOU-KO!
WHEN MY MOTHER DIED...
SHE TOOK ME IN AND RAISED ME!


H-
HUH ?!
NO WAY !!
BUT...
Give me a break!
SHE MAY LOOK YOUNG ..
BUT SHE'S IN HER LATE THIRTIES


THEN,
THE PERSON WHO RE-MARRIED
IT WAS KYOUKO-SAN
SHE SAID I COULD STILL LIVE WITH HER, BUT .
I DIDN'T WANT TO INTRUDE ON THE NEW COUPLE

YOU THOUGHT I WAS THE KIND OF GUY
IN OTHER WORDS
...WHO WOULD TOUCH ANOTHER GIRL...
WHEN I WAS ALREADY GOING OUT WITH ONE?
I'LL
...ONLY SLEEP WITH THE GIRL I LIKE
I'M SORRY !!

HUH?
SO...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
BELIEVE IT.

<The End>

I Believe in You:

Lonely Children

by Miura Noriko

THE CREDITS:

Scanner: OKAASAN

Translator: SAKURASOU

Extra Trans help: Karu & Shizen

Proofreader: SOPHENDO|BOT

Editor: MANGAUNIVERSE

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